



THE WORLD THIS MORNING

Bush in trouble

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Just three weeks before Iowa voters kick off the presidential nomination race, opinion polls show Vice-President George Bush falling further behind there, in part because of the Iran arms scandal.

Manoeuvres

CAIRO, (Reuters): Egypt is willing to hold military manoeuvres with any Arab country which has restored diplomatic ties with Cairo, armed forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Safi-Deen Abu Shenaf said.

Punjab killings

NEW DELHI, (AP): Sikh extremists killed three people, including a communist activist, in continuing violence in the northern state of Punjab, the United News of India reported.

War criminal

BELGRADE, Jan 18, (Reuters): Yugoslav war criminal Andrija Arpukovic, known as the "butcher of the Balkans," died last Saturday at a prison hospital, aged 89, the state news agency Tanjug said yesterday.

Train collision

BEIJING, (AP): A passenger train collided with a freight train in northeast China, killing 17 people and injuring 66, official reports said.

Plane crash

MOSCOW, (Reuters): Eleven people were killed yesterday when a Soviet Aeroflot airliner crashed while landing at Krasnodar, to Soviet Turkmenia, the newspaper Izvestia reported.

Scrap treaty

DAMASCUS, (Reuters): A senior member of Syria's ruling party urged Egypt yesterday to scrap its peace treaty with Israel.

US senator

DAMASCUS, (Reuters): US Republican Senator Arlen Specter met Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharrar yesterday for talks which included the Iran-Iraq war, US embassy officials said.

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کویت کا مقررہ علاقے کی سرحدیں
امداد کیلئے کھلا رکھا جائے گا
کریجی میں تین دن کی خاموشی کا اعلان
ایران میں دہشت گردوں کی سرگرمیاں
کھلا ہوا دھماکا
سری لنکا کے وزیر خارجہ کی تقریر
تاریخ کی شہادت

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE remains below normal with light to moderate north-westerly wind and some clouds will appear.
State of sea: slight to moderate
High water: 1.00 am, 10.00 am
Low water: 6.00 am, 6.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.43 am
Sunset: 5.14 pm
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 15°C 59°F
Ahmad: 15°C 59°F
Falka: 14°C 57°F
Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 14°C 57°F
Ahmad: 14°C 57°F
Falka: 13°C 55°F
Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 7°C 45°F
Ahmad: 7°C 45°F
Falka: 6°C 43°F
Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 7°C 45°F
Ahmad: 7°C 45°F
Falka: 6°C 43°F

Desecration of Al Aqsa condemned Kuwait will send \$5m of aid to Palestinians

KUWAIT yesterday strongly condemned the desecration of Al Aqsa mosque by Israeli troops in occupied Jerusalem last Friday, the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed said after the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday.

The condemnation is in conformity with HH the Amir's recent call on Arab and Islamic leaders to support the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

The cabinet session presided over by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah also decided to send food and medicine worth \$5 million to Palestinians in the occupied territories to help them to continue anti-Israeli protests.

The aid would be sent through the United Nations, Rashed said.

Imposed

"The cabinet reviewed the siege imposed on Palestinians in the occupied lands to cut off food and medicine to force them to stop their tremendous revolution against occupation and injustice," Rashed said.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) says there are serious shortages of food in the eight Gaza Strip refugee camps, where more than 200,000 Palestinians have been living under curfew for a week to 13 days.

At least 39 Palestinians have been killed in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip since the uprising started on Dec 9.

Rashed said the aid was "a contribution from Kuwait to lessen the suffering of our brothers in Palestine and help them continue their defiance."

In Riyadh, the Saudi Arabian cabinet also decided to send medicine, wheat, milk and other foodstuffs to Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Information Minister Ali Hassan Al Shaer said in a statement, carried by the Saudi Press Agency, that the aid would be given to the United Nations immediately for distribution to "the brotherly Palestinian people."

Donated

Pope John Paul, unusually answering reporters' questions last night, said he found Israeli police action against worshippers at a revered Jerusalem mosque on Friday unacceptable.

UNRWA chairman Yasser Arafat has called for the placement of UN peacekeeping troops in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to quell the unrest there.

"I accept the United Nations forces to be between the Palestinians and the Israelis and these



Refugees at the Bureij camp in the occupied Gaza Strip, argue with an Israeli soldier on the restriction of movement in the camp. (Reuters wirephoto)

UN forces to be within our territories," Arafat said in a CBS television interview in New York.

In Abu Dhabi, Deputy Speaker of Palestine National Council (PNC) said yesterday the PLO has donated about \$50 million to support continuation of unrest in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Salim Al Za'atou, told a press conference at least \$100 million of "urgent aid" was needed to help those affected by the violent demonstrations in the occupied territories.

Reports from occupied Jerusalem said, the Israeli Army lifted curfews in the West Bank, and authorities said yesterday they planned gradually to ease restrictions in the Gaza Strip in a first cautious test of policies to curb the unrest.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres called for an early election so that Israel could make political decisions to advance the peace process, but Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected the idea.

Election

The West Bank was reported calm yesterday, a day after the Army removed curfews imposed on six of the area's 15 refugee camps. The village of Salfit, 15 miles (25 kms) north of Jerusalem, remained under curfew.

In East Jerusalem, stores were shuttered in an almost complete commercial strike.

Peres's left-leaning Labour party and Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc share power in a coalition government plagued by ideological rivalries. Elections are not scheduled until November.

Peres, speaking to reporters, suggested a spring election but acknowledged: "It's quite complicated because at the moment there is no (parliamentary) majority either way."

A vote for an early election would depend on the will of splinter parties.

Shamir told reporters Israel needed to display unity in the face of the unrest, saying any election held before the protests were quelled would "weaken our standing in the eyes of the Arabs and is liable to damage us."

Shamir also called on the United States and Egypt to help revive negotiations to give the 1.5 million Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip limited autonomy.

Curfew

The two countries, with Israel, agreed on the autonomy principle in the 1979 Camp David accords, but the idea was overwhelmingly rejected by the Palestinians and negotiations quickly stalled.

In the Gaza Strip, seven of eight refugee camps remained under curfew, but military officials who requested anonymity said the restrictions would be lifted gradually in the next few days.

But the Army appeared to be

maintaining curfews there rigidly.

A reporter saw troops seize baskets of food from six women outside the Bureij camp and trample them as the women looked on screaming.

The soldiers then tried to chase reporters away, and the area commander, a Colonel named Avi, claimed the women were "putting on a show for the reporters."

Israel last week started laying economic siege to troublesome camps, on the assumption that Palestinians unable to work and deprived of income would pressure the militants to call a truce.

Situation

"It (the policy) has been successful," said a military official.

Sunday passed without incident in what was believed to be the first full day of calm since the unrest began, but Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was quoted by Israel TV as telling the cabinet it was "a forced calm."

UN Undersecretary-General Marack Goulding yesterday met Shmuel Goren, coordinator of policies in the occupied territories, to discuss the situation in the refugee camps.

The United Nations relief and Works Agency, which administers the camps, has said curfews are being lifted at random, making it difficult to coordinate the flow of UN supplies.

It said troops yesterday barred food from being distributed at Bureij and Dir El Balah camps.

Karachi under curfew after 3 die in riots

KARACHI, Jan 18, (Reuters): Pakistani authorities imposed a curfew on parts of Karachi today and called in troops after ethnic rioting killed three people, officials said.

"The situation is under control," Karachi Commissioner Shahid Aziz Siddiqi told reporters at Shah Faisal colony police station, near the city's international airport.

He said an indefinite curfew was imposed in the Shah Faisal and Green Town districts because of the tension.

Deputy police Inspector-General A. A. Shigri told newsmen at least 22 shops were set on fire by arsonists who attacked property belonging to the rival community. "They have gone mad," he said.

Precaution

Shigri said troops had been called in as a precaution.

More than 350 people have been killed in ethnic rioting in Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city, over the past 14 months. Most of the clashes were between Mohajirs, migrants from other parts of the subcontinent, and Pashtuns from North-West Pakistan.

But residents of Shah Faisal colony said today's fighting, which followed a night-long gun-battle, was between Mohajirs and Punjabis, natives of Pakistan's most populous province.

Six people were injured. The troops had gone back to the barracks only a few days ago after restoring peace following a burst of rioting which killed two people on Jan 9.

Troops in battle dress on heavy Army trucks fitted with machine-guns and loudspeakers announced the curfew. Police with megaphones told residents to go inside their homes. A dozen firemen stood by their tenders awaiting emergency calls.

Eyewitnesses said thousands of people rushed home from the centre of Karachi, a port city of more than seven million people, when they heard news of the rioting and curfew.

"The trouble started when some people hurled stones at a couple on a motorcycle," a recently-elected municipal councillor said. Police did not confirm the report.

Rajasthan chief minister resigns

NEW DELHI, Jan 18, (Reuters): The Chief Minister of Rajasthan, India's western desert state, who was criticised for his initial inaction on the self-immolation of a young widow last week, resigned, apparently under pressure, today.

State-run All-India Radio said Harideo Joshi submitted his resignation to the acting Rajasthan governor J. S. Verma in the state capital Jaipur. Joshi cited personal reasons, the radio said.

A member of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party, Joshi was summoned to New Delhi yesterday amid speculation in the press and political circles he would be told by Rajiv to resign. He returned to Jaipur today.

Joshi had been criticised for his government's initial inaction on an 18-year-old widow, Roop Kanwar, burned to death on her husband's funeral pyre in an apparent act of Sati — the ancient but outlawed Hindu practice.

Saddam opponent shot dead in Khartoum

KHARTOUM, Jan 18, (AP): Gunmen rushed into the lobby of the Khartoum Hilton Hotel, shot dead an opponent of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and wounded the victim's nephew, witnesses and police said today.

Mahdi Al Hakim died last night from three gunshot wounds to the head. His nephew Abdul Wahab Al Hakim was shot once in a knee but refused efforts to take him to a hospital and was treated by a doctor at the hotel.

Police said an intensive search was under way for the unidentified assassins, who with waiting companions fled in two cars bearing diplomatic licence plates.

Prompted

Identified as the second-ranking leader of the pro-Iranian Iraqi Shiite opposition movement, Al Hakim and his nephew were in Khartoum to attend the general congress of the fundamentalist National Islamic Front. The front previously was called the Muslim Brotherhood.

Front sources said the two Al Hakims were not invited to the congress because the Iraqi government was represented, but they had just returned from a meeting with NIF leader Hassan Abdallah Turabi when the shooting occurred.

Although there were no suspects, Sudanese officials indicated they thought the shooting was prompted by Iraqi politics.

Sudan is a supporter of Iraq in its protracted war with Iran, and the Iraqis recently have given Sudan arms to fight its southern civil war.

Interior Minister Sayed Ahmed Al Hussein denounced the killing. "Sudan refuses to become an arena for the settling of scores among any external political factions, either directly or indirectly," he said.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported that two people got out of the two cars after they pulled up outside the Hilton, where the Al Hakims were seated in the lobby.

It said the attackers went inside, fired two shots toward the ceiling. When people in the lobby fell to the floor, the men approached the Al Hakims, Mena said, fired three shots into the dead man's head and once into his nephew's knee.

Refused

Police said Abdul Wahab Al Hakim refused to discuss the attack but asked for Turabi to be brought to him.

The Al Hakims had come from London for the Islamic Front conference. Iraq expelled members of the Al Hakim clan to Iran soon after the two countries went to war in Sept 1980.

To an apparent effort to prevent the attackers from leaving the country, Sudanese authorities immediately closed Khartoum airport, but waiting aircraft were allowed to take off without taking on passengers.

Iraqi daily raps GCC efforts for Iran talks

BAGHDAD, Jan 18, (AP): The government newspaper Al Jumhouriya today scoffed at Arab efforts to open a dialogue between Iran and GCC states to ease tension in the region and bring a possible end to the Iraq-Iran war.

It pointed out to recent threats by Iranian leaders against Arab Gulf states, and repeated Baghdad's warnings that Iran was preparing for a major offensive against Iraq.

It said the Iranian threats were clear evidence that Iran "does not recognise any dialogue but that which relies on force."

Coincided

The comment, which came in an editorial in the leading daily, was the first from Iraq on a diplomatic offensive launched by Syria in December, which culminated last week with meetings between Iranian and UAE officials in Tehran and Abu Dhabi.

It coincided with a Gulf tour by Iraqi Vice-President, Izzat Ibrahim, who visited Kuwait and is currently in Saudi Arabia with messages from President Saddam Hussein to HH the Amir of Kuwait and Saudi King Fahd.

"Those who think that the Tehran rulers have even the slightest willingness for peace should have understood and carefully looked into the Iranian preparedness to carry out new military adventure against Iraq," the paper said.

Iran has been reported to have massed about 500,000 men for a major offensive against southern Iraq, Iraq said it was on alert to crush the attack.

"Such an adventure is not intended against Iraq alone but it embodies the Iranian grand intention to expand to the Gulf area," the paper warned.

Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani on Friday said the military was on "full alert" ready to attack Iraq, and warned Arab Gulf states to stop aiding Baghdad and should repent before it was too late.

The Iraqi paper said: "The true face of any dialogue with Iran is that which hides behind Rafsanjani's threats to the Gulf Arab states."

Baghdad denied an Iranian report today that its Revolutionary Guards killed or wounded 2,000 Iraqi troops in the second phase of an offensive in the northern mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan.

"All the figures announced by Tehran about Iraqi losses are incorrect," Abdul Jabbar Mohsen, head of the Iraqi Defence Ministry's political department, told reporters in the Iraqi capital.

Tehran Radio, quoted a war communique as saying the Iraqis suffered 2,000 casualties when the Iraqis repelled two counter-attacks in the Mawut area yesterday.

Superpower cooperation

BAHRAIN, Jan 18, (Reuters): An American warship offered the Soviet Navy details of a convoy operation today in an apparent increase of cooperation between the superpowers in the Gulf.

Reporters in a helicopter over the southern Gulf said they overheard a radio message from the Soviet warship asking the US ship about the make-up of the convoy it was escorting.

They said the Americans normally did not supply such information but this time gave the names of the tanker and the numbers of the US warships.

Dhaka shifts election date

DHAKA, Jan 18, (Agencies): More than 20 people were injured, three of them seriously, in a clash with police at an opposition rally near Dhaka, a spokesman said today.

The government, meanwhile, shifted the date of parliamentary elections to March 3 from Feb 28.

"At least 20 people received minor injuries when police had to resort to a mild baton charge to disperse a crowd of people trying to hold a rally in front of the

public library yesterday," the police spokesman said on telephone from Narayanganj.

"We had to break the rally because it was being held in violation of the law," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Narayanganj is about 10 miles south of the capital city of Dhaka.

Rallies, protests and demonstrations are banned under the emergency rule clamped by the government on Nov 27 to suppress the opposition campaign to

oust President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

The parliamentary elections were shifted to March 3, apparently to oblige a Muslim saint who counts Ershad among his devotees.

The Bangladesh election commission did not give any reason for the change of date.

Informed sources said the date was switched because it clashed with the annual congregation of disciples of the saint known as "peer of Atrashi."

Sri Lanka finance minister quits over differences with Jayewardene

COLOMBO, Jan 18, (UPI): Finance Minister Ronnie De Mel resigned today and official sources said President Junius Jayewardene ordered him to quit over a furor surrounding the veteran cabinet member's declaration that the government had "no right to stay in power."

De Mel, who managed the island's finances for more than 10 years, gave up his post one day after being sacked from the working committee of the ruling United National Party (UNP).

"I have served the government and the people of this country to

the best of my ability as Minister of Finance and Planning for 10 and a half years," De Mel said in a resignation speech to ministry leaders.

"I have no regrets or bitterness with anyone. Peace and elections, elections and peace. This is the only salvation for this country."

Government sources said Jayewardene would not name a successor immediately but that De Mel's deputy, Naina Marikkar, would be sworn in as acting Finance Minister.

De Mel, a moderate and a

staunch supporter of Jayewardene, told Parliament on Dec 24 that since there had been no elections in the country in 10 years "we have no right to stay in power."

In a recent interview he said a 1982 referendum which extended Parliament for another six years from 1983 had been "a mistake" and that he had stopped calling "Sri Lanka a democracy since then."

Elections have been stalled since Jayewardene declared a state of emergency in 1983 to fight an insurgency by Tamil

separatist rebels in the island's Tamil-dominated north and east.

The outgoing Finance Minister favoured negotiations with the guerrillas, as well as lifting a ban on militants based in southern Sri Lanka belonging to the majority Buddhist Sinhalese community.

De Mel was respected for forging innovative strategies in keeping Sri Lanka's war-ravaged economy solvent. He advocated free-market policies and gained support from international monetary bodies, that many

observers said was secured largely on the basis of his good reputation.

Warned

De Mel met Jayewardene twice last week, and official sources said the President had warned him he would be removed if he did not resign his cabinet post.

Meanwhile, military sources said three guerrillas were killed, two injured and 11 captured in clashes yesterday between militants of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and Indian troops in the north and east.



Ronnie De Mel



● The flagship of the First re-enactment for the Australian Bicentenary, the Soren Larsen, enters Botany Bay, south of Sydney, following an eight-month voyage from Portsmouth, England, retracing the journey made by Australia's first white settlers 200 years ago. (Reuter wirephoto)

Roh plans to include opponents in cabinet

SEOUL, Jan 18, (AP) President-elect Roh Tae-Woo said today he plans to fill his cabinet posts with opposition members.

Roh said he will ask the opposition camp to recommend suitable candidates for the posts, but did not say what posts would be offered. There was no immediate reaction from the opposition.

Meanwhile, the single-house National Assembly began a new session today to prepare election laws that must be completed before upcoming legislative elections. The present assembly, elected in February 1985, is to dissolve by late April.

Roh talked to reporters about his plans for a new cabinet and other subjects after moving into a new office with a team of aides to prepare for the handover of power from outgoing President Chun Doo-Hwan. Roh is to be sworn in Feb 25.

Roh, who heads the ruling Democratic Justice Party, was elected with 36.6 per cent of the vote in the Dec 16 presidential election. Opposition leader Kim Young-Sam polled 28 per cent and his opposition rival Kim Dae-Jung 27 per cent.

Roh has suggested conciliatory gestures toward the opposition, in part because he failed to win a clear-cut mandate from the voters.

He reiterated today that his party wanted to hold the assembly elections in February, but said it would depend on negotiations with the opposition on rewriting the election laws.

Roh has said his new administration should start with a new assembly next month.

Seoul accused of faking sabotage

TOKYO, Jan 18, (AP) North Korea today accused South Korea of faking the case of a missing South Korean jetliner so that the South could blame the North in an attempt to smear the North's reputation.

The official Workers (Communist) Party newspaper Rodong Shinmun said, "the moves of the puppets following the jetliner incident and the clumsily made results of the investigation, full of contradictions, indicate the jet incident as a self-made drama premeditatedly invented by the Chun Doo-Hwan-Roh Tae-Woo group with an insidious political aim."

Chun is South Korea's President and Roh was elected Dec 16 to succeed him next month.

The Rodong Shinmun commentary demanded that the South Koreans "apologise for their insidious, reckless attempts to besmirch the external authority" of the North and "stop their provocative anti-communist smear campaign, which pushes the situation on the Korean peninsula to a higher pitch of strain."

A Korean Air Boeing 707 carrying 115 people disappeared last Nov 29 over the Andaman Sea near Burma on a flight from Abu Dhabi to Seoul.

Confession

Last Friday, a young woman who identified herself as Kim Hyon Hui, 25, a North Korean agent who had undergone years of terrorist training in the North and abroad, admitted in Seoul that she and a partner had planned a time bomb on the KAL jet.

Soon after the confession, North Korea called the claims "a fabrication full of lies" and said it would retaliate against any "provocation" from Seoul.

Today's commentary, carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, declared that "the South Korean rulers must frankly admit even now, though belatedly, that the jetliner incident was their own fake-up."

It said South Korea's "smear campaign" against the North "is wire-pulled by the US imperialists, who are fishing in troubled waters."

Syria executes spies

DAMASCUS, Jan 18, (AP) Three Syrians accused of being Israeli spies were hanged in public at a Damascus square, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported today.

The report said the death sentences were carried out "against three Syrian spies who have sold themselves to the Zionist enemy (Israel) for a few dollars."

Sana named the executed as: Fouad Ali Hasan, 35, from Latakia — Mohammed Saleh Yahia Badr, 41, of Damascus — and Mustapha Mahfouz, 52, who hails from Salamiyah near the northern city of Homs.

Sana gave no details on where and when the execution took place nor whether the three cases were linked. It did not elaborate on the spying charges nor report on the men's trial.

Renegades plan attack as local polls end

Troops ringing Manila

MANILA, Jan 18, (Reuter) Voting in Philippine local elections ended today with troops ringing Manila after rumours that renegade soldiers planned an attack.

The reports that 3,000 renegade troops could try to attack the capital overshadowed nine hours of voting and ended a generally calm election day marred by sporadic outbursts of violence and complaints of cheating.

"The Army is ready to meet any threat," armed forces spokesman General Honesto Isla said on government television after polls closed. "Of course these are unconfirmed reports but we cannot hush them off."

"We have adequate security," added police chief General Manuel Roxas. "Metro-Manila is practically ringed by (government) forces."

Tally Collecting and counting votes for mayors and provincial governors became the final hurdle in the country's two-year journey back to democracy following the February 1986 overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos and President Corason Aquino's rise to power.

Argentina turns down conditional surrender offer by Rico



BUENOS AIRES, Jan 18, (Reuter) President Raul Alfonsín's government turned down an offer today by Army mutineer Aldo Rico to make a conditional surrender and it pledged to press ahead to end the Argentine military rebellion.

Presidential press spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez said on television that Rico met Second Army Corps Commander Juan Mabagana to discuss his surrender "seeking a period of time to deliver it that was not accepted, so we continue advancing."

In Paris, French President Mitterrand's office reported that Alfonsín had told his French counterpart by telephone that Rico, a cashiered lieutenant colonel, had surrendered.

Artillery and small arms fire broke out earlier between loyalist forces and rebel troops near Rico's headquarters north of the capital, an Army statement said. It did not report any casualties in the fighting at the hamlet of Labougle, 20 kilometres from the Army base at Monte Caseros where Rico was entrenched with about 100 battle-hardened supporters.

The statement said three rebel officers were detained. This was the first time Argentine troops had fired on each other since fighting between rival Army factions in 1962.

Around 1,900 civilians were evacuated from the area. Alfonsín applauded the "decisive action of the military command" to crush the rebellion, said the presidential press spokesman. "The president is in charge of the operations to defend the constitution."

Earlier today two loyalist soldiers were seriously injured when a rebel-placed mine exploded under their truck. A road bridge on the outskirts of Monte Caseros, 630 kilometres north of Buenos Aires was destroyed in a bid to halt the advance of loyalist forces encircling the area.

Alfonsín held an emergency cabinet meeting to discuss the uprising which found pockets of support elsewhere in the country.

Poll officials said they feared that achieving an accurate tally could be the biggest problem after a vicious election campaign in which 91 people were reported killed.

One of the last victims, a candidate running for provincial governor, was shot dead at a late last night rally.

Communist rebels, blamed for much of the campaign violence, snatched ballot boxes in the central island of Negros. The military said the communist New People's Army wounded 22 people when guerrillas threw a grenade inside a passenger bus in the southern island of Mindanao and blew up an Army jeep wounding three soldiers.

Gummen shot and seriously wounded a policeman guarding a polling station south of Manila and threw a petrol bomb at a police car in a provincial centre.

Poll clerks said things were quiet during the voting but they feared that might change later when the votes were counted.

In Manila's Makati financial district car-riding gunmen sprayed automatic rifle fire at the

headquarters of the administration's mayoral candidate and unconfirmed radio reports said a campaign worker was shot dead in cavite on the outskirts of the capital.

In another incident, election officials who checked a ballot box before polling opened found it already stuffed with 250 votes.

In the central province of Iloilo, communist rebels raided a polling station and grabbed two ballot boxes, the private radio station DZRH said.

Elsewhere in the province, armed men set fire to three classrooms just before voting was to start but no one was injured, the Philippine news agency said.

Unidentified men snatched empty ballot boxes before polling opened on central Negros island, it said.

Turnout

At dawn today in Ilocos Sur, communist guerrillas freed unharmed two candidates they kidnapped at a rally on Dec 16.

Military and election officials reported a heavy turnout among the nation's 27.6 million registered voters for the first local

elections since polling held under martial law in 1980 and the first held freely since 1971, the year before the now exiled Marcos began military rule.

Aquino, who has supervised the introduction of a new constitution and a new two-house congress since coming to power in a popular revolt, voted north of the capital in her home province of Tarlac, with a last call for calm.

Violence was lower than in previous elections, Aquino stated, adding she hoped Filipinos would begin to understand "that it is only through peaceful ways that we will be able to preserve our democracy."

The official Commission on Elections, fighting against a return of the so-called "goons, guns and gold" politics of intimidation and bribery, postponed voting in 11 provinces and five cities from the south to the north of the island chain.

The three major parties in the ruling coalition were expected to draw at least 70 per cent of the seats at stake in the polls. Marcos's KBL or New Society Party is given little chance of winning.

Rival blacks vying for political control

Seven die in S. Africa violence

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 18, (UPI) Police today reported seven people killed, including a two-year-old child, in the latest round of fighting between rival black groups vying for political control in ghettos around the Natal province city of Pietermaritzburg.

The killings yesterday, pushed the weekend death toll to nine and took to 42 the number of blacks murdered this year in the region about 480 km southeast of Johannesburg.

Zulu chief Mangosuthu "Gatsha" Buthelezi, leader of one of the feuding groups, today blamed the outlawed African National Congress for the bloodshed.

"The ANC has orchestrated this battle, not I," he said in a telexed response to questions.

"We will not be intimidated out of existence."

Police said in a routine report on violence during the 24 hours to dawn today that a 21-year-old black man was found shot to death in one ghetto and a 33-year-old man was burnt to death when his home was torched by unidentified attackers.

"In a third incident in this area, a group of blacks fired a number of shots and, in the process, fatally wounded a two-year-old boy who was in his mother's arms," the report said.

Stabbing

Three black men were found stabbed to death in a different ghetto, apparently in one attack, and another man aged about 25 was found shot, stabbed and burned to death.

In earlier reports, police reported one death Friday evening and another on Saturday.

Leaders of the two movements meanwhile continued a war of words that has prevented progress towards a negotiated peace between supporters of the United Democratic Front and Buthelezi's politically more moderate Inkatha Movement.

The UDF, claiming to represent two million apartheid foes, supports the ANC's guerrilla war against white rule and its goal of a socialist black government.

Buthelezi, hereditary leader of the country's five million Zulus, said today his Inkatha Movement now has 1.5 million members supporting his strategy for a negotiated end to apartheid and a capitalist future for the country.

Trial of three Arabs adjourns

ROME, Jan 18, (Reuter) The only Italian policeman to fire his gun during a Palestinian attack at Rome airport in which 16 people died, told a court on Monday that he threw himself to the ground at the first sound of shots.

Another police witness, Rinaldo Brina, told the court trying three Arabs for the Dec 27, 1985 attack that no police were posted at the airport entrance nearest the assault.

Lawyers acting for some of the 89 people wounded in the attack allege that lax security at the terminal was largely responsible for the high casualty toll and are seeking damages from the Italian government and Rome airport authorities.

The trial was adjourned until Feb 2, when more witnesses will be heard. Court sources said a verdict was possible by mid-February.

Silvano Del Buono, a police dog handler, was patrolling the area of the Israeli El Al and US TWA airline check-in desks when the four gunmen attacked with hand grenades and Kalashnikov rifles.

Explosion

Del Buono told the court he heard an explosion which sounded like a firecracker. "Then I began to hear bursts of automatic fire," he said.

"People were lying on the ground and I threw myself down. I saw one of the attackers firing... and shot at him lying down," Del Buono said.

He said he missed and rose to his knees, fired again and hit the assailant. He then took aim at a second gunman but had already emptied all 16 shots from his beretta pistol.

Nato summit set for early March

BONN, Jan 18, (Reuter) A summit of NATO heads of government is planned for the first week of March in Brussels, a close aide to Chancellor Helmut Kohl said today.

Separate talks between Kohl and President Ronald Reagan were also being prepared, he added.

The aide said Reagan had not decided whether to meet Kohl in Brussels or come to Bonn.

Officials of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation said in Brussels last week a rare alliance summit was scheduled for either March or April, before Reagan's planned meeting in Moscow with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Diplomats said the Brussels meeting would form part of preparations for the Moscow summit, expected in May or June. Reagan and Gorbachev hope to sign a treaty cutting high superpower stockpiles of intercontinental, or strategic, nuclear missiles.

European NATO members expressed criticism over what they saw as Washington's lack of consultation before the 1986 superpower summit in Reykjavik, at which large cuts in strategic weaponry were discussed.

Bonn government sources said Kohl wanted to give Reagan a detailed explanation at their talks of West Germany's stand on short-range nuclear missiles.

Most NATO nations, notably the United States and Britain, want NATO to stick to its 1983 decision at Montebello to update its short-range weaponry.

But Bonn fears modernisation of the missiles, with a range of up to 500 km, could sour the disarmament process.

NATO's commander in Europe, General John Galvin, says he favours the Western alliance quadrupling the striking range of its battlefield nuclear missiles under plans to modernise its nuclear stockpile.

"I would like to see a modernisation which would provide... a longer range surface-to-surface missile which would perhaps get out to 450 km" Galvin said in an interview with West German Radio.

Carbide appeals against relief order

DANBURY, Connecticut, Jan 18, (AP) Union Carbide Corp. said today it appealed an Indian court order that the company pay \$270 million in interim relief to the victims of the 1984 Bhopal gas leak that killed more than 2,000 people.

The mid-December order for interim relief "without evidence or trial" is contrary to law, the company said in a brief statement released from its Danbury headquarters.

The appeal, filed today in the city of Jabalpur, India, asks the high court in the state of Madhya Pradesh to set aside the order, Carbide spokesman Ed Van Den Amele said.

"It must be clear to the government of India that the court's order merely delays ultimate resolution of victims' concerns by introducing a new and unenforceable concept of law," Van Den Amele said.

subsidaries and officers of homicide and injury to people and animals when the methyl isocyanate leaked from a pesticide plant operated by a Carbide subsidiary in Bhopal.

The Indian judge ordered the interim relief in mid-December, five months after the multinational corporation had offered to give more than \$4.6 million in interim relief "on humanitarian grounds."

"Union Carbide is committed to helping the victims, but that help cannot be achieved without due process of law stipulated in United States courts," Van Den Amele said.

The Indian government contends that the December 1984 leak was caused by negligence on the part of Carbide, and has supported its proposals for interim relief on grounds that there is a solid case against the company.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bus crash

ISLAMABAD, Jan 18, (Reuter) Two passenger buses, one carrying a load of matches, collided in a fiery crash in western Pakistan, killing 24 people, the official news agency APP said today.

An equal number of people were injured in the crash last night near Dalbadin, 325 km (200 miles) south-west of Quetta. Many of the victims were burned to death when one bus caught fire after the impact, APP said.

Ghaffar Khan

ISLAMABAD, Jan 18, (AP) Hospital officials said today there has been a slight improvement in the condition of Abdul Ghaffar Khan, a Muslim who sided with Hindus, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru in political battles for India's independence from Britain.

Ghaffar Khan, 98, was hospitalized last week, suffering from numerous ailments including strokes, a lung infection, said doctors at the Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar, 100 miles (160 km) northwest of Islamabad.

"He is slipping in and out of consciousness," said Dr. Jamal Ahmad, administrator of the hospital.

Demonstration

NEW DELHI, Jan 18, (AP) More than 1,500 members of the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during a demonstration near Parliament today.

The demonstrators blocked traffic at a busy intersection and were detained by police.

Merger document

LONDON, Jan 18, (Reuter) Leaders of Britain's Liberal Party, fighting off a rebellion over terms for a planned merger with the Social Democrats (SDP), approved today a policy paper that could pave the way to union, Liberal officials said.

The Liberal Party's 17 members of the House of Commons, as well as peers from the House of Lords, unanimously accepted the paper at an hour-long meeting.

Lightning deaths

NAIROBI, Jan 18, (AP) Bolts of lightning in western Kenya killed eight people, including a peasant farmer and three of his children, police reported today.

Another bolt hit a school in the same region, injuring 14 students. Five of them are in critical condition with head and chest burns, hospital officials said.

Toilet paper

DUBLIN, Jan 18, (Reuter) Debt-ridden Irish schools have asked children to bring their own toilet paper with them.

"It's going back to the situation long ago where schoolchildren brought a sod of turf to school to keep the fire burning," said a spokesman for the Catholic Primary School Managers Association.

De Mojana dies

ROME, Jan 18, (Reuter) The Grand Master of the 900-year-old Order of the Knights of Malta, His most eminent Highness Fra Angelo De Mojana Di Cologna, died in Rome last night after a short illness, the order announced today.

De Mojana, appointed by Pope John XXIII in 1962 as the 77th Grand Master of the deeply Catholic order, was 82.

The order said De Mojana died of a heart attack in a clinic he had entered three days ago.

Whale teeth

TOKYO, Jan 18, (Reuter) Makara-Bunaku puppets, used in a traditional form of Japanese theatre, are appealing to an Inuit (Eskimo) village in northern Canada for the teeth of a dead whale washed ashore last year.

The horn-like mouth plates called baleen, which right whales use to filter small shellfish from seawater, have always been used to make the internal mechanisms of the three-man puppets.

Victory parade

KABUL, Jan 18, (Reuter) Tanks, armoured cars, heavy guns and rocket launchers paraded in Kabul today as the Afghan Army celebrated last month's victory over Muslim insurgent forces around the eastern town of Khost.

Jet fighters screamed past and helicopter gunships clattered overhead as Soviet-backed President Najibullah took the salute at the parade in the Afghan capital's revolution square.

Marching past were some 2,500 Afghan government soldiers, said by officials to have taken part in the fighting to break a long insurgent siege of the garrison town close to the Pakistani border southeast of Kabul.

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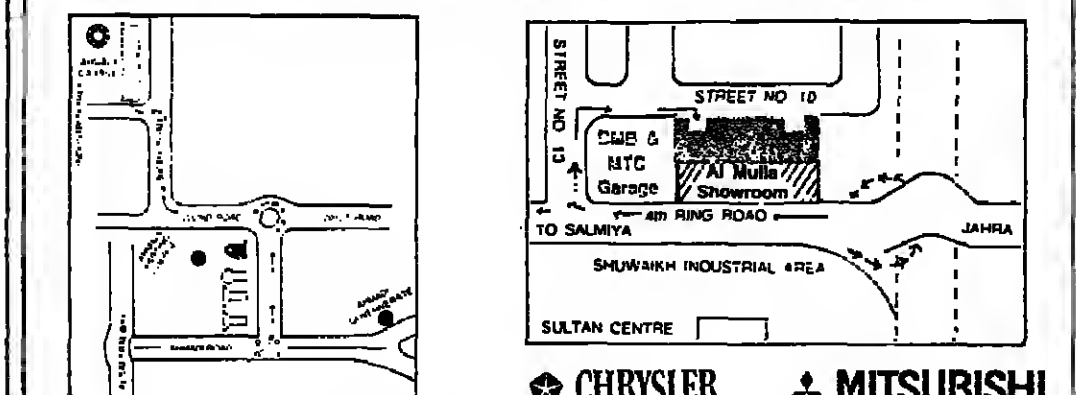
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Kuwait elected to IBE post

GENEVA, Jan 18. (Kuna): Kuwait was today elected to serve as one of the five vice-presidents of the International Bureau of Education, a Geneva-based UNESCO-affiliated institute for the promotion of education techniques.

The other countries elected for a two year term at a meeting of the IBE's council here were Czechoslovakia, Venezuela, China, Burundi.

France's delegate to the four-day Geneva conference, Yves Brunwick, was voted president.

Apart from the elections, the 24 national members of the IBE council also were due to review the work of the bureau over the past year and to prepare reports for a major conference late this year to be attended by education ministers from around the world, said the secretary-general of the Kuwait National Commission for Unesco, Sulaiman Onazi.

Cabinet briefed on Iraqi Vice-President's visit

THE Council of Ministers yesterday held an ordinary session under the chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah. The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed said after the cabinet session that the ministers were briefed by Sheikh Saad on his talks with Iraqi Vice-President and Deputy Chairman of the Revolutionary Council that touched on developments of the current Arab situation and ways to stop the ongoing Iraq-Iran war in addition to bilateral relations.

Reviewed

During his visit here, concluded on Sunday, Ibrahim delivered a message to HH the Amir from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein dealing with developments of the Iraq-Iran war and ways to bring it to an end at the international and Arab levels, Al Rashed said.

Rashed added that the cabinet also reviewed the message of King Hussein of Jordan to the Amir that dealt with Arab issues and ways to support Arab solidarity.

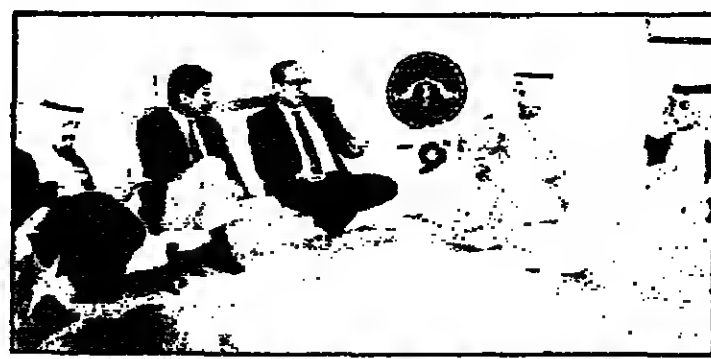
The cabinet also reviewed the outcome of OIC Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzada's visit here last week during which he met with the Amir discussing a number of Islamic issues and the Islamic move to confront pressing issues topped by the Gulf war and the situation in the occupied Arab territories, Al Rashed said.

Al Hamud briefed the cabinet on results of the ninth session of the Arab Gulf ministers of social affairs and labour that was concluded here last week, Al Rashed said.

Coordination

He added that Minister of Electricity and Water, Mohammed Al Rifai also reported to the cabinet on results of his official visit to Bahrain that was aimed at boosting bilateral cooperation and coordination in the water and energy fields.

Minister of State for Services Affairs, Issa Al Mazzei also briefed the cabinet on results of the fourth civil aviation conference of the Gulf Cooperation Council states which was concluded in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia last week, Al Rashed said.



Participants at the Road Safety Society's weekly seminar discuss a number of issues related to road safety.

Traffic accidents cost Kuwait KD116m

THE Chairman of Kuwait's Road Safety Society Sabah Al Rayes said that traffic accidents in Kuwait cost about KD116 million per year and that although large amounts of money are spent on research to fight disease, research in the area of traffic accidents, which claim numerous lives yearly, is unheard of.

drivers, said that drivers of heavy vehicles who drive recklessly should be educated as to the consequences of such driving. He added that there are about a half a million cars in Kuwait, which is too large a number for a country the size of Kuwait.

Dr Mahmud Al Bustan spoke on the importance of seat belts and asked that a campaign be launched to convince motorists to wear them. He added that some countries impose fines on drivers who do not use seat belts.

The Associate Professor at the faculty of medicine at Kuwait University Dr Mahmoud Al Sharief, speaking about psychological factors affecting

GCC keen on strong information policy

INFORMATION Undersecretary Abdel Aziz Jaafar said yesterday that the outcome of the meeting for GCC information undersecretaries which concluded in Riyadh on Sunday affirms the keenness of these countries on establishing a strong information policy to serve the interests of the region as well as Arab interests.

On selecting Kuwait as a new centre for the council countries, the undersecretary said that the GCC general secretariat was commissioned to study this issue and prepare a detailed study on it in cooperation with the Kuwait Information Ministry.

He indicated that the recommendations which were endorsed by the information undersecretaries, will contribute to the integration of media bodies in the Arab Gulf countries.

Some of these recommendations, he noted, include establishing a Gulf company for manufacturing paper to meet the increasing demand and boosting benefit from the Arab Satellite (ArabSat).

Jaafar who returned home on Sunday after heading the Kuwaiti delegation to the meetings, said, "I was delighted to bear the praise that the Kuwaiti press and Kuna received from the conference on the prominent role they play to serve the interests of the area."

Awadi for Cairo to attend doctors' federation meeting

PUBLIC Health Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi flew to Cairo yesterday to take part in a meeting of the Arab Doctors' Federation which opens in the Egyptian capital today.

The ministerial get-together will discuss and review several medical studies on health service problems in the Arab world and common diseases in the area, Awadi told Kuna before his departure.

The Arab health ministers will use the four-day conference to have talks on stepping up cooperation between Egypt and Arab countries in medical areas, now that Egypt's membership of the doctor's federation has been revived.

At least nine Arab countries restored diplomatic ties with Egypt after the last November emergency Arab summit conference. The boycott which dated back to 1979 stemmed from a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel that year.

The Arab states which have restored links with Egypt will be coordinating with Cairo for the adoption of common health policies, counting on Egypt's huge health and medical capabilities, the Kuwaiti minister said.

Files

Meanwhile, Awadi authorised yesterday the general plan for fighting flies in the area.

The plan, which was proposed by assistant undersecretary for financial affairs at the ministry and chairman of anti-rodents committee Abdel Latif Al Mijhem, will be implemented as of next Feb 1 in cooperation with Ahmadi governorate council, Kuwait Municipality, the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries and Wafta agricultural society.

Unique sea shells found

MUSCAT, Jan 18. (AP): A leading international conchologist has found sea shells in the Gulf state of Oman that are new to science, natural history experts said.

Kathleen Smythe, 60, a London-based conchologist attached to the British Museum, is helping the government catalogue its shell collection, which numbers over 6,000 specimens and 500 species.

She has written an authoritative reference text, "Shells of the Arabian Gulf," published in 1982.

"It is exciting work," she said in an interview. "I have found a new key-hole limpet, a rock-boring mollusc not seen before, and several shells not yet identified but certainly new. I expect to find more of importance."

She describes several species of shell new to science in nearly 20 scientific papers to her credit. They include a shell discovered in

Kuwait to host Arab cooperative conference

BARRAK Al Noun, the head of the preparatory committee of the second Arab Scientific Cooperative Conference, announced that Kuwait will host the conference from February 15 to 20, with about 100 participants representing 18 Arab countries and more than 40 thousand cooperative organisations and societies with about 40 million members.

Al Noun said that a number of Arab and international organisations will take part in the conference, such as the Arab Economic Union Council, the Arab Labour Organisation, the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Development Programme.

He explained that the committee which had been set up to prepare for the conference had met several times and a special committee had been set up to study scientific papers presented for discussion at the conference. These papers focus on consumption, agricultural marketing, cooperative training and integration among Arab cooperative organisations.

Public lavatories contract signed

TWO contracts were signed on Sunday between Kuwait Municipality and Kuwait Prefabricated Company for the construction and maintenance of public lavatories in Kuwait City and along highways.

The contract for the city services was for KD42,000 and the one for the highway services was for KD37,200. Both had a time limit of 45 days and were signed by Kuwait Municipality's Director General Rashed Al Othman.

Charges for medical services

THE Minister of Kuwait's Public Health Ministry Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said that in addition to medical expenses being charged to visitors to Kuwait, charges will also be made for some aesthetic medical services, such as electrolysis, KD30; facial scrub and massage KD20; sauna baths and treatment of skin eruptions, KD30; skin smoothing, KD80 and hair transplants KD200.

Training courses

THE faculty of commerce and political science of Kuwait University will hold a series of training courses for employees in the private and public sectors during the second term of the 1987-88 academic year.

The first course will be from Feb 6 to April 4 and is meant to upgrade the skill of people working on projects.

The concept of productivity, productivity analysis, monitoring techniques, ways to increase quality production and computerisation of production processes will be among the subjects covered during the course.

Egyptian cultural week in Doha

CAIRO, Jan 18. (Kuna): Egyptian Industry Minister Mohamed Abdel Wahab will on Friday pay a three-day visit to Qatar, it was announced today.

The Middle East News Agency (Mena) said the minister will be accompanied by chairman of Egypt's International Exhibitions and Fairs Authority Farouk Al Bakari and will take part in inauguration of the Egyptian products exhibition and the Egyptian cultural week which are due to open next Saturday in Doha.

New university graduates to fill teaching positions

THE Director of Kuwait's Jahra Educational Area Ibrahim Abal Khail said that the ministry will attempt to employ full session graduates from Kuwait University to fill teaching positions and that the ministry had started interviewing these graduates during the last few days.

Abal Khail said that the Jahra area suffered from a significant shortage of teachers this year and had made every effort to solve the problem by transferring teachers from other area schools to Jahra and by contracting teachers from other Arab countries.

The director said that a large number of new schools will be built in the Jahra area during the present Five Year Plan and that new schools will reduce the number of temporary classrooms installed in some schools in an effort to alleviate crowded classrooms.

The Education Ministry is paying special attention to the provision of intensive coursework for students who need extra help, especially after preventing private institutes from offering private lessons for students, he said, adding that the ministry had recently issued a circular organising courses held in the schools, for which a small fee would be charged. He added that many students who would benefit from these courses refuse to take them because they are offered in the afternoon.

Private schools solve a serious problem facing the ministry, he said, by providing an education programme for a large number of pupils, he said. He added that a private university will be built in the country to admit expatriates and Kuwaiti students who have not been accepted at Kuwait University.

Education Minister, Anwar Al Nouri, yesterday.

It said that the malpractices should be referred to the head of the concerned educational area for appropriate action for all examinations except the higher secondary examinations.

In the case of the higher secondary examinations, the matter must be referred to the Undersecretary, who will form an investigation committee and taken suitable action against the violators.



The Pakistan Ladies Club hosted a farewell dinner at the Holiday Inn Hotel this week for the Pakistani Ambassador Khaled Saleem and his wife. Picture shows the envoy (right), Begum Naheed (centre), their children and a guest (left) at the dinner. (Photo: Zafar)

Campers complain of disturbances

MOST people camping in the desert have complained that this year the outing has not been as pleasant as last year.

Thousands of people have been camping in the desert, a traditional annual event that usually coincides with the spring vacation of schools.

Campers said that this year's weather remained cool and a good amount of rain fell.

They told Al Seyassab newspaper that camping in the desert was far better than going abroad because travel was too costly for them.

They said that officials had forgotten about them, and reckless youths playing among the camps disturbed the families.

One camper, Sabeel Al Saleem, said that desert camping meant a change of scene and routine for him and his family. But the campers faced a lot of disturbance from youths who drove their cars and motorcycles recklessly day

and night. He called Interior Ministry officials to step up their measures against such youths.

There are many unlicensed grocery shops among the camps and they provide most of the essential commodities, including rice, eggs, bread, cigarettes, and soft drinks.

Damaged

One grocer claimed that they sold goods at the same prices as the markets. He called on Municipality officials to provide them with proper licences in order to make such groceries a permanent service for desert campers.

Many campers are not happy at the present state of the desert. On camper said that in the past the desert was full of grass, but now there was very little grass because it was either damaged or did not grow due to lack of rain.

Most campers prefer nearby camps, such as the one at Mishref, which is the biggest this year.



A family prepares lunch.

French minister to visit Kuwait

PARIS, Jan 18. (Kuna): French Minister of State for Economic, Financial and Privatisation Affairs Edouard Balladur today received Kuwait's Ambassador to France Dr Tareq Rzuouki.

A diplomatic source told Kuna that the talks dealt with preparations for the upcoming visit of Balladur to Kuwait, scheduled for January 27 to 28.

He added that the discussions also dealt with Paris-Kuwait relations and issues of concern to the two capitals.

Balladur, considered as the number three man in the French

hierarchy, is scheduled to start a Middle Eastern tour Saturday which will take him to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan, in addition to Kuwait.

According to government sources, Balladur will discuss a range of political and economic issues with leaders of these countries, especially that he will be representing Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

The Prime Minister has declined to visit the region himself since he started last Saturday his presidential campaign.

Teachers helping students to cheat in exams will be punished

TOUGH measures are to be taken against teachers and officials for malpractices involved in conducting school examinations.

Teachers who come late for examinations or leave early without a reasonable excuse, reject the instructions of superiors, are negligent about examination procedures, are lax and give students an opportunity to cheat, help students to cheat, lose, damage or change answer papers, or leak questions, will

face various punishments. The penalties will be according to the Civil Service Council's law, and include cautioning the violator, deducting up to 15 days salary each time provided it did not exceed 90 days a year, reducing the salary by 25 per cent for at least three months and not more than 12 months, demotion, and discharge. These penalties will be imposed according to the seriousness of the violation.

A decision on the violations and penalties was issued by the

GULF PRESS

Gulf newspapers hail Palestinian uprising

NEWSPAPERS in the Arab Gulf states yesterday hailed the ongoing Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

The Saudi Al Madina newspaper said the uprising has emphasised that the force from which Israel derives its existence will not be able to hold in the face of the will of the Palestinian people and their determination to restore their legitimate rights.

The Saudi Al Youm newspaper said Israel has committed a mistake by thinking that it can finish off with the Palestinian ombilions through its iron-fist policy.

The newspaper called on all Palestinian commando groups to unite in one front and emphasised that the Israeli enemy will not understand anything except the language of force.

The Saudi Al Riyadh newspaper said the uprising has put the world vis-a-vis a clear fact that the practices of Israel are not only against the civilised behaviour, but are also barbaric, inhumane and immoral.

The newspaper recalled that Lord Bernadotte was a UN envoy killed by Jewish gangs in 1948. It said another UN envoy, Morrick Gouding, has received a warning that he might be second UN emissary to be killed if his stay in Palestinian refugee camps look a longer time.

Goulding had to duck for cover last Saturday to avoid rubber bullets shot by Israeli soldiers in Bakata refugee camp which he was visiting to get acquainted with the situation there.

In Doha, the Qatari Al Raya newspaper said the employment of the Israeli enemy of "the economic war" and its attempt to starve the Palestinian people will not achieve anything, but will further fuel the resolve of the Palestinians and will expose the ugliness of the Zionists to the world.

Qatari Al Arab newspaper said the killing of scores of Palestinians and arresting thousands of them in the occupied territories in addition to the demolishing of houses and deporting of detainees, require on active Arab political effort on the international level and with the big powers which maintain strong relations with Arab countries.

The English-language Gulf Times called on the international community to put real pressure on the Zionist entity so to stop its terrorist practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The paper emphasised that international stances supportive of the Palestinian rights should be translated into actions, such as stopping cooperation with the Zionist entity and providing the Palestinians with the required support.

Siamese twins in critical condition

By Jadranka Porter

KUWAIT'S surgeons have begun co-ordinating international experts in an effort to solve the case of the Siamese twins, who were in critical condition yesterday.



Dr Mahmoud Al Bader.

Fifteen doctors from Ibn Sina and Chest Diseases hospital who met yesterday to discuss the case are not planning surgery because of serious congenital abnormalities in both babies.

"We don't want to experiment with them. If they have to die let them die in peace," said Dr Mahmoud Al Bader, the chairman of paediatric surgery at the Chest Diseases hospital.

Specialised examinations have revealed severe deformities in the babies' hearts, lungs, kidney and liver. The twins share one liver. Each baby has got one normal and one underdeveloped lung. One baby has got one kidney while the other has none. Although the twins have two hearts these are joined and each heart has one instead of two ventricles.

Chances

Dr Al Bader said the chances are that the two hearts cannot be used to save one baby primarily because the wall between the two ventricles is perforated and oxygenated blood cannot be separated from non-oxygenated. This condition is a threat to their lives.

"If we attempted the surgery to separate the babies we would

need two transplantable hearts and lungs and the chances of getting those are very remote," said Al Bader.

In deciding whether to operate a serious consideration must be given to the kind of life the patient faces after the surgery. Al Bader said adding that if one or both babies survived surgery they would not be able to live a normal life.

Attempts elsewhere in the world to separate Siamese twins with similar abnormalities have failed, Al Bader said. The Minister of Health, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi visited the twins on Sunday and expressed his confidence in the decision taken by specialists.

The Egyptian couple, the parents of the twins, accepted the doctors decision with relative calm saying that what happened to them was God's will.

Drug control training course

RIVADH, Jan 18. (QNA): The twenty-third drug control training course began today at the Arab Centre for Security Studies and will continue until Feb 24 for Saudi Customs personnel.

He added that the centre kept abreast of all scientific and technological advances made in the area of training programme for drug control.

The head of the centre Dr Farouk Abdul Rahman Morad, in his opening address, emphasised

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EVENTS

Arab art season opens in London

Lure of the orient

LONDON, Jan 18. (Kuna): The 1988 season of Arab art exhibitions got underway in London last week with a collection of 19th century watercolours of Arabia entitled "The Lure of the Orient."

The exhibition at Mathaf Gallery will be followed later this month by displays at the Kufa and Zamana Galleries.

The Mathaf display concentrates on the theme of the Middle East in a "glorious variety of works by the best known orientalists," said the gallery's chairman Brian MacDermott.

On show are the works of such orientalists as John Frederick Lewis, Carl Werner and Carl Haag, both Germans, and Luigi Mayer, Italian. The watercolours by William Wyld, Walter Tyndale, Joseph Benwell and many others are also exhibited.

The orientalists were a group of Western artists who

travelled extensively in the Middle East during the last century.

They had an eye for human and natural phenomenon and were particularly fascinated by scenes of every day life in the Arab World.

Consequently mosques, bedouins on horses or camels, traders in the bazaar, street musicians or pilgrims returning from Makkah lend colour and mystery to the exhibition.

Realism

Orientalists were noted for their realism and obsessive attention to detail, evident in their depiction of architecture and decoration on buildings as well as Arab dress.

Italian orientalists used strong colours while the British favoured the muted tones particularly enhanced by the medium of watercolour.

Their works varied greatly in subject, mood and technique, reflecting the many different countries including France, Italy, Germany, Britain and the US where they came from.

Among the most famous of the English school is John Frederick Lewis, who began exhibiting at the Royal Academy in 1822.

His study "Greetings in the Desert," which is on display, is a vivid composition accentuating the varied embroidery and textures of Arab dress.

Italian Filippo Bartoloni's "Street Scene" contrasts stark white buildings against a bold blue sky while groups of Arabs in the foreground conducting business in the street merge into the muted shades of half-light.

The work of orientalists has been steadily gaining popularity in the 1980s with successful exhibitions in both Europe and America.



"Street Scene," water-colour, Filippo Bartoloni.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Nimir Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Sahniya
The Living Daylight
Starring: Timothy Dalton
Al Hamra
Ya Sadiqi Kam Tasawi (Arabic)
Starring: Farouq Fishawi, Safiya Al Omari
Drive-In
Al Nimir Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Firdous
Kaash (Hindi)
Starring: Jackie Shroff.

Dimple Kapadia
Fahad Open-Air
Khuddar (Hindi)
Starring: Shatrughan Sinha, Jeetendra
Al-Fahad
Big Trouble In Little China
Al Jahra
Miss Lolita (Bengali)
Granada
Nee Allenkil Njaan (Malayalam)
Selaikhat
Flood
Al Jleeb
Rajlakshi Srikantu (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Binaat Haratna (Arabic)

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Zuhr	11.59
Asr	2.56 pm
Maghreb	5.15
Isha	6.36

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Jawharat Al Khaleej Bldg., Fahad A' Salem St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Haditha Pharmacy
Othman Complex, Khalid Bin Walid St.
Salmiya and Rumaythiya
Sima Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Firdous Pharmacy
Makkab St., F'heel
Farwania
Jazira Pharmacy
Hmoud Sanwan Rashidi Bldg., Main St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

KLT-Comedy

The next production at KLT is a comedy Say Who You Are, directed by Steve Prescott. The gala performance is at 7 pm on Feb 1. Repeat performances are at 7.30 pm on Feb 2, 3, and 4. Tickets — KD3. For reservations call 3947651. Tickets must be collected from the Box Office two days before the performance date.

SOCIAL

Japan Week

Jan 21: Kite flying competition, from 9 am to 1 pm, at the Science Club.

The following events will be held at the Hilton Hotel. Jan 22: children's exhibition, also featuring award-winning art works by Kuwaiti children, on loan from the 1987 International Art Exhibition held in Yokohama. Open from 4 to 9 pm on Jan 22. From Jan 23 to 25, open from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 9 pm. Jan 23: seminar on Japanese education; 9 am to 1 pm; Ikebana School — 11 am to 1 pm; piano concert by Cairo-based pianist Junko Nakayama. Jan 24, Ikebana School, 11 am to 1 pm; martial arts and tea ceremony.

Seven films will be shown during the Week in the Hilton's Terrace room. All films are in Japanese with Arabic subtitles. Jan 22, 4 pm, Snow Fairy; 7 pm, the Makiooka sisters. Jan 23, 4 pm, The Dragon Boy; 7 pm, Sanjuri, directed by Kurosawa. Jan 24, 4 pm, The Yamashita Story (Judo story); 7 pm The Longest Tunnel. Jan 25: Tori San's Forbidden Love, a comedy, 7 pm.

A seminar on Japanese business will be held on Feb 3 at the Kuwait Building of Commerce and Building from 8.30

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Bahas An Mofli: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News via satellite
- 4.15 La Ilaha Illallah: historical serial
- 5.15 Al Manabul: children's serial, starring Ahmad Qawadri, Tayseer Attiya
- 6.15 You and Your Health: local programme
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Afaq Al Fann: Art Horizons
- 7.35 Al Quds: 20 Years On. A talk show on Jerusalem's history
- 8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: religious talk by Sheikh Ali Al Jassar.
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Pages from the History of Kuwait
- 10.50 Photographia: part one, new Arabic serial, starring Abdullah Ghaiti, Madiha Hamdi, Jamil Rateb, Mohammad Rida.
- 11.30 News Summary
- 11.35 World News via Satellite
- 12.15 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Rainbrow Bright:



Glenda Jackson stars in tonight's Cine Club film, Lost and Found, at 10.10 pm on KTV2.

- Cartoons.
- 6.30 Side Kicks: "The Cousin Who Fell To Earth". Arnie's cousin comes to the US and wants to join the police force.
- 7.00 Beyond 2000: a look at the latest advances in science and technology. Tonight, parachuting, turtle farming, chess and computer.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 You and the Law: a local programme
- 8.50 Heart of the City: "Of Dogs, and Car Burglars". A series of burglaries take place in the neighbourhood; the police investigate.

- 9.40 Tracy Ulman Show: Comedy.
- 10.10 Cine Club: "Lost and Found" Starring George Segal and Glenda Jackson. A marital comedy with a university backdrop. Sequel of A Touch of Class. Directed by Melvin Frank.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



"Greetings in the Desert," watercolour, John Frederick Lewis.

German pianist enthalls audience

GERMAN master pianist Wolfram Lorenzen enthralled a select audience of diplomats and Kuwaiti business at a special performance held yesterday at the Hilton Hotel.

Lorenzen, who is one of Germany's rising stars, is on his second visit to Kuwait.

Lorenzen captivated the audience with his fine rendition of three waltzes by Chopin in D-Flat Major, C-Flat Major and A-Flat Major, performed with controlled sensitivity. He displayed his excellent musical technique in Beethoven's Sonata in C-Flat Major.

The programme also included music by Schubert, Mozart and Liszt. Lorenzen has won international acclaim due to his speed and precision and sensitive style.

Lorenzen comes from a family of musicians and acquired his technique under Prof. Klaus Linder in Basler and later studied at masterclasses with Wilhelm Kempf. He plays regularly with major orchestras and has toured extensively.

The concert was sponsored



Wolfram Lorenzen pictured with West German Ambassador Dr Bernd Wulffen.

by Lufthansa, Siemens-AG-Ngecco, Al Rabiha Construction Company and the Kuwait Hilton. It was held under the patronage of Dr Bernd



● Chef shows a giant croissant, which is being promoted at Meridian's Al Fingian and Al Waha restaurants. The giant croissant sandwich with lettuce, tomatoes, cheese and beef, will be available at both outlets until Jan 28.



Experience the exotic charm of the Orient, at the Tent, home of Arabian fascination. Come and enjoy a family evening with live Arabic music.

An Arabian bazaar: perfumes, jewellery, clothes, rugs with oriental designs and an extravaganza of Arabic dishes.

Every Tuesday from 7.00 pm onwards KD 5. per person, special price for children.

Sahrat al khema

SAS
Kuwait Hotel
Tel: 5657000
See you at SAS.



● An evening of Arabian traditions — Sahrat Al Khema — is featured every Tuesday in SAS Hotel's The Tent. Experience the grandeur of Arabia at the tent featuring stalls of jewellery, antiques, carpets, rugs, toys, coffee (della), birds and perfumes. A diwan has been set up in front of the stage, where a band plays Arabic music.

am to 5.30 pm.

A token admission fee will be charged for some events. For further details, and confirmation of schedule, contact Tel: 2518155/2518440 or the Japanese Society — 2533000 ext 1156.

Children's Books Exhibition

A Children's Book Exhibition will be held from Jan 23 to 28 at the British Council in Mansouriyah. The exhibition will feature award-winning books by prominent British illustrators and authors exhibited at the Frankfurt International Book Fair. The exhibition has been sponsored by the British Council and is being held in cooperation with the Kuwait Bookshop.

Story Time

The British Council will hold a story-telling session for children from 10.30 am on Thursday, Jan 28, at the British Council library. Children of all nationalities are welcome.

Kuwait Caledonians

Kuwait Caledonians will hold Burns Night at 7.30 pm on Jan 28 at Messilah Beach Hotel. Guest speaker will be Bob Crempsey. For details phone 5610673.

Winter Serenade

The Kuwait Players Winter Serenade will be an evening to remember — haute cuisine, music, sparkling and show stoppers, nostalgic ballads, moody blues and celebrated classics performed by Ross, Jenny, Lynley, Reem, Rosie and Carol. Directed by Peter Godfrey, Ross Langhorne and Glenis Muckle. It will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Meridian Hotel, on Feb 1, 2, and 3. Feb 4 Gala Dinner and show at 7.30 pm. For details ring 2656265; 5334695 or 5730641.

Kuwait Welsh Society

New Year's Lunch on Friday, Jan 29, 12.30 pm. For details phone 4874548; 3940743/4 ext. 231 after 4.30 pm.

Ladies Tea Party

A rare fashion show will be held at the International Ladies Tea Party on Jan 20 (Wednesday) from 4.30 pm at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel. For details phone 5317390. 5386297.

Kuwait Singers

Rehearsals for the May concert will begin on Monday, Jan 18, 7.30 pm in the Sunshine School, Salwa, and will be held every Saturday and Monday. New members welcome. Tel: 5331413.

Sargam Music Show

Sargam, a local group, will hold a music show at Messilah Beach Hotel at 6.30 pm on Feb 3. A selection of popular Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and English songs will be presented. Entertainment also includes fire dance, lava dance and a magic show. For details phone 3260455, 7 am to 3 pm.

Neelam Ghar

Neelam Ghar, a quiz show, will be held on Jan 22 at Carlton Tower Hotel. Admission by invitation only. For details phone Zulfikar or Anes — 4814733; 2427388; 2445324 or Haroon Sayeed — 5659336.

Contact

The next meeting of the ladies information group. Contact, will be held on Jan 30, Saturday, from 10 am at the SAS hotel. Newcomers particularly welcome. For details phone 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

HOTELS

At the Ramada Al Salam

Daily lunch, chef's special, and dinner buffet at Coffee Shop; from Sunday to Friday, steak and seafood specialties featured for dinner at El Merissa Restaurant, open from 7 pm to 1.30 am. Family brunch on Fridays from 12 noon to 3 pm. Highlights will be: magician, painting competition, games and ship's discovery tour.

At the Meridian

A two-week promotion featuring giant croissants, and croissant sandwiches, is being held in the Al Waha and Al Fingian restaurant. The promotion continues until the end of the month.

At Messilah Beach

Al Mubarakiah features lunch and dinner, open 24 hours, children under 10 years free if accompanied by adults; offer limited to four. Sunday's is ladies day with 50 per cent discount for them.

At the SAS

Every Tuesday is Sahrat Al Khema — oriental night. Experience the exotic charm of the Orient at the Tent. Arabian bazaar, perfumes, jewellery, clothes and rugs are some of the attractions. Dinner, live music and raffle prizes.

At the Sheraton

Authentic Italian cuisine is featured in the Riccardo Restaurant; music by the Moonlight Duo. Dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the gypsy band. For lunch, Hunt Room offers a la carte.

At the Continental

Gardenia offers food and beverage service on the Terrace. Daily dinner buffet and on Fridays, lunch buffet with barbecue grilled specialties. Darbar features daily lunch buffet and 'a la carte' for dinner.

At the Hilton

Speciality menu featured in Failaka, open for lunch and dinner; grazing menu also available in addition to desserts.

SPORTS

Ahmadi Kart Racing

The fifth round of Kuwait National Drivers' championship will be held on Friday, Jan 22. First round of ladies championship. Races begin at 1.00 pm.

Lipizzan stallions combine power and grace

Baryshnikovs of the equine world

By Hattie Clark

WADSWORTH, Ill. : They're the Baryshnikovs of the equine world, combining power with the grace of clouds. Manes flowing, they leap. They kick. And they pirouette to the rondo of Mozart, the waltzes of Strauss.

The Lipizzan stallions are truly spectacular, and they seem to know it.

Mirroring one another's movements, they trot and canter through their quadrille with the precision of a corps de ballet, each maintaining its space and place throughout. Any doubts about their exaltation in executing the choreography is wiped away when one studies the geometric patterns made by hoof prints in the sand. No sloppy circles here. No zigzags.

Throughout the summer, the white stallions and their riders perform each Wednesday and Sunday at Tempel Farms in Wadsworth, Ill., midway between Chicago and Milwaukee. Capacity crowds, shaded by caopies, circle the outdoor arena. This is the only place in North America where the public can regularly see classical horsemanship by Lipizzans in the tradition of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna.

Right off, the performance frolics when foals are let loose in the arena. While mares promenade, their offspring cavort like little kids at school recess. The Lipizzans are born dark, gradually growing lighter, with most turning white between ages 7 and 10. Only 1 per cent of the horses remain dark into adulthood, and following tradition, Tempel Farms always retains a dark one; at present, it's a pure-black stallion, a rarity.

As expected, the programme's "Airs Above the Ground" segment takes the Lipizzans into the air in moves natural to stallions when frisking and fighting. In earlier times, cavalries capitalised upon these movements, turning them into battle manoeuvres. The leade helped shield a soldier from an



Off duty mare and foal: Lipizzans are born dark and whiten between the ages of 7 and 10.

enemy's frontal attack. Balanced on haunches with front feet in the air, the stallion's body makes a protective screen for his rider. It's a position often immortalised in bronze by park sculpture.

In the courbette, the stallion stands on hind legs, then executes several forward jumps, a manoeuvre destined to scare infantry soldiers standing below. The capriole proved brutal for both man and beast advancing from behind. With a leap like Pegasus' flight, the stallion kicks out with back legs while suspended in midair. Tempel audiences are treated to all three of these moves, with and without riders. Although the manoeuvres are tied to cavalries of the past, the military association pales when you see them done, like dandies fluff flying free in spring, or winter snow sifting down on cathedral spires. Somehow, the stallions' beauty transcends battles. The Lipizzans go back to the late 1500s, when the royal Hapsburgs selected a site near the village of Lipizza (in what is now Yugoslavia) for the crossbreeding of domestic mares with imported Spanish stallions, the coveted mounts of the time. The horses of Lipizza

were to be magnificent, suitable for stocking the stables of the royal court. They were. And are. Today Austrian Lipizzans perform at Vienna's Spanish Riding School in a hall resplendent with baroque ceiling and chandeliers.

About 1,200 Lipizzans exist in the world today, with Tempel Farms serving as home for the largest privately owned herd, now numbering 153. The late Tempel Smith, founder of Chicago's Tempel Steel Company, started the herd in 1958, when he imported 20 Lipizzans from Austria. Public performances didn't begin at Tempel Farms until 1982. The Lipizzans are more museum pieces than marketable commodities. "There's no real demand for horses with these unique talents, because there're only two places in the world that have Lipizzan performances like this," explains Roberta Williams, director of programme development and a rider in the young stallion segment. "We have horses here that no amount of money would make us part with them. But then we have some at different stages in training that we do sell," she says. The saleable Lipizzans carry price tags from

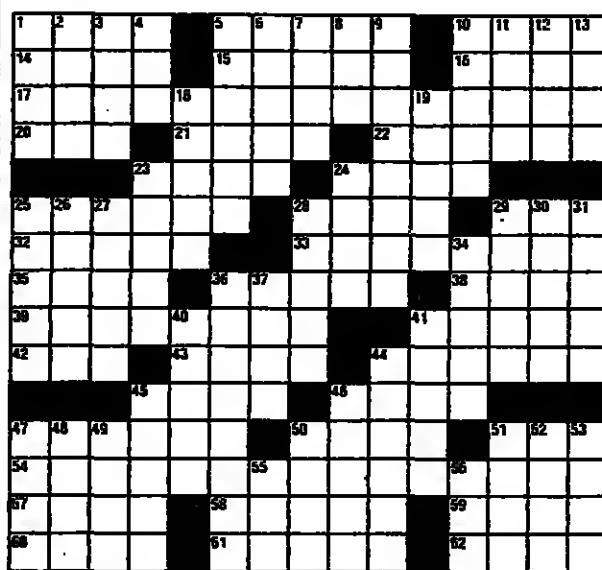
several thousand to \$20,000 or more.

A Lipizzan is not a performer of high-top tricks, but rather like an athlete developed through years of training, according to Alf Athenstaedt, performance director. Mr Athenstaedt, a native of Germany, is an expert in classical dressage, who came to Tempel Farms in 1963 for a "visit" — and stayed.

Classical dressage (which means training in French) is a highly disciplined equestrian style. Lipizzan stallions and their dressage riders train together for years, refining their technique and bonding their mutual respect. In classical dressage, a rider communicates with the horse through the slightest flick of a finger on the reins, through movements of the lower leg, and shifts of weight in the saddle. The signs are so subtle that most go unseen by observers.

When horse and rider perform in perfect harmony, with the two melding into one motion, then classical dressage is elevated from "style" to an art form. But sadly, it's an ephemeral art form — kept alive only in memory. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Color of

5 Adjuncts of

10 Historic action

14 Long-stemmed

15 Laud

16 Prax with space

17 SUBJECT's

20 Joined

21 Astronaut,

22 Drugged

23 Haberdashery

24 Black, poetically

25 Virtue is its own

28 Relativist of

29 Mad. land

32 Gram of the

33 Tribute to

38 Whip

38 Dregs

39 Fencing sword

39 Like SUBJECT

41 — Park, Ill.

42 Mystery writer

43 Sharp and biting

44 Goddess of

SUBJECT

DOWN

1 Part of a hill

2 What some

3 Not new

4 Poetic

5 Saw

6 Put pressure on

7 Vapor: Comb.

8 Utterance of

9 Sleeps

10 Bridal gown

11 Shade

12 Laka or city

13 Duck's habitat

18 Not here

19 Part of

a lasso

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

THE GREAT DEFLECTION

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ Void
 ♥ 98542
 ♦ KJ10863
 ♣ J4

WEST
 ♠ AQJ752
 ♥ J6
 ♦ Q72
 ♣ 76

EAST
 ♠ K1043
 ♥ 103
 ♦ 95
 ♣ AKQ83

SOUTH
 ♠ 986
 ♥ AKQ7
 ♦ A4
 ♣ 10952

The bidding:
 South 1♥ West 1♠ North 4♥ East 4♠
 Pass Pass 5♥ Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠
 When Dorothy Rice Sims perfected the psychic bid, its usual form was to open the bidding with values far short of an opening bid, generally in a suit where the opening bidder was short. For a while that sowed confusion in the ranks, and the tactic enjoyed a spell of great popularity.

Eventually, however, even average players learned to cope with that sort of bluff, and the psychic bid fell into disrepute, only to return in another, more dangerous, guise. Instead of being wielded with a mallet, it was used with a velvet glove to camouflage the distribution of a

hand or to deflect an opening lead. It is a tactic that works even in the most exalted company, as this hand from a world championship event proves.

You won't find North's one no trump overall in any bridge textbook we know of. In those times you will learn that you need 8-10 points and a stopper for such action. But North knew that his hand was worthless defensively, and even detracted from his partner's defensive capacity. On offense, however, his trick-taking ability was enormous, so he wanted to deter his non-vulnerable opponents from sacrificing.

He reaped no immediate reward, for East blasted into four spades. Nevertheless, when North persevered with five hearts, both opponents decided that they had had enough.

Now North's bidding really paid off handsomely. A glance at the full diagram shows that a club lead would have defeated the band—West can ruff the third round with a trump higher than anything in dummy. But an unsuspecting West led his ace of spades, and it was all over. Declarer ruffed on the table, drew trumps in two rounds, then set up diamonds by ruffing the third round. A spade ruff provided an entry to dummy, so he ended up with an overtrick, losing only one club.



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
 HARM EPHOO PUPA
 ARROA LAURA ONES
 HATCHETMAN NOAK
 ARCHIVES CATERERS
 IRAN MINOR
 MAGNET WINNOWER
 AGUE EWING NOLA
 NON APE ROW
 ERST SLEDS OLPE
 TALENTED TAROES
 INCUS PIMA
 RANOM REFINING
 ERGO BOOTLEGGER
 MIEN LITRE ELEE
 OARS ELIS SUDS

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will tend to be rather irritable and should do your best to keep away from persons who irritate you. You should deliberate carefully before you make up your mind. Try not to think negative thoughts. Be sensible.



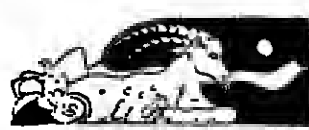
Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

The planetary influence will tend to be rather in your favour but you must try to avoid running any obvious risks. You will be able to make progress with a personal matter. You should do all you can to avoid getting into an argument.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Something you began some time ago will now begin to take effect. Do not permit others to take advantage of you. One of your ideas will not find a great deal of favour: never mind. Be generous.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

Beware, someone you thought you could trust may not be all that trustworthy. You should do all you can to avoid getting into an argument. You should not be quite so fond of the sound of your own voice. Be resilient.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be better able to organize your day. Now is the time to do something about a problem you have been putting to one side. You should avoid jumping to conclusions. Be attentive.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will feel more ebullient, but must not overdo things. Also reserve your judgment on a matter involving a friend. You should refrain from becoming a television addict. Be more tolerant.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Something a colleague has just done will prove to be slightly embarrassing but you should take his side. Good contacts should be fostered and you should be a little more forthcoming.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will not be in the best of moods so try to keep away from controversy. You will have something personal to be pleased about. If you expect more than you deserve you will be sadly disappointed. Be sensible.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Now is the time to turn over a new leaf and to make a new start. If you are wrong you should have the courage to admit it rather than trying to cover up. You should stay within the limits of propriety without being too fastidious about it. Be less reckless.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You must combat a tendency to jump to conclusions, mostly wrong ones. You should be even more than usually on the lookout for careless driving. An essential repair should not be delayed: the longer you do the more expensive it will become. Be conscientious.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to get your own way in many but not all things. You should not allow love to grow stale. You must try even harder if you want to learn a new skill. Be selective.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

What seemed like an almost insuperable difficulty will prove to be nothing of the kind. You would do well to listen to others and take note of their opinions. Keep your wits very much about you and use your commonsense. Be practical.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

ALWAYS do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest — Mark Twain, US writer-humorist (1835-1910).

Israeli expulsions break some hearts

By Marcus Eliaon

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. (AP): To most Israelis, the four Palestinians expelled from the occupied West Bank for fomenting anti-Israeli unrest are little more than a string of names, ages and prison records.

But not to Dalia Landau. One of the deportees, Bashir Al Khairy, is her friend, and their friendship illuminates the anguish many Israelis feel about their Palestinian neighbours.

It seems an unlikely relationship. The 40-year-old Israeli woman is described by friends as extremely private and not given to public gestures. The Palestinian is an avowed militant who has spent 15 years in prison as a convicted guerrilla.

Letter
Last week, while in a hospital waiting to give birth to her first child Mrs Landau heard to her dismay that Al Khairy was being deported. She wrote him a letter, then decided to publish it.

Her husband Yehzekel typed her longhand draft and took it to the Jerusalem Post, which published it Thursday across nearly half its back page.

As one editor remarked: "It was one of the most moving things I ever read."
The story of this friendship is filled with poignant Middle Eastern imagery — a stone house, a lemon tree, an old man's tears, a young man's anger and a pregnant woman's fears for the world that awaits her child.

"We got to know each other 20 years ago under unusual and unexpected circumstances," the letter begins. "Ever since, we have become part of each other's lives."

Meeting
They first met after the 1967 Mideast war when Al Khairy showed up at the house where she and her family lived. The house, in the central Israeli city of Ramle, was where Al Khairy was born. The Al Khairys had fled when Israel took Ramle in 1948. Now it was occupied by Dalia Landau and her family, immigrants from Bulgaria.

Al Khairy's visit "was my first encounter with Palestinians," wrote Mrs Landau. She then visited his family in the West Bank city of Ramallah. They disagreed profoundly on politics. She believed in a Jewish state. He believed Zionism was a crime. But they became good friends.

Suharto cracks down on corruption

By Jeremy Clift

JAKARTA. (Reuters): President Suharto has signalled a crack-down on widespread corruption in Indonesia, urging young people to be the government's eyes and ears and report on graft suspects.

Saying corruption in South-East Asia's largest nation was getting worse, Suharto said young people should become the "eyes and ears of the authorities in fighting waste and embezzlement of development funds."

"The President has given a go signal, and this signifies the political will of the government to remedy the situation," former state prosecutor H.M. Dault told the Indonesian daily Kompas.

Suharto, 66, made his remarks to Indonesia's National Youth Committee, sparking a debate in the Indonesian press about whether it was possible to eradicate corruption in a country where it has become almost endemic.

Officials
The deputy chairman of the Parliament's economic and finance committee, Messakh, said the main problem was finding officials strong enough to stand up to corruption.

In many departments there was a kind of under-the-counter cooperation between senior officials and their staff, he said.

The Indonesian Observer said it was time to bring in tougher sentences for corrupt officials.

Several members of Parliament said that in the present tight economic situation there was no room for corruption.

"Everybody knows that development must go on and it requires a lot of funding. Therefore everybody should be aware of this and refrain from jeopardising the state coffers,"

One day Al Khairy's father, aged and blind, came to visit the house in Ramle.

"He touched the rugged stones of the house. He then asked if the lemon tree was still in the back-yard. He was led to the abundant tree, which he had planted many years before. He caressed it and stood silent. Tears were rolling down his face."

Mrs Landau's father gave him a lemon as a memento. Years later the old man's wife told Mrs Landau that on restless nights her husband would pace the room clutching the shriveled lemon.

Freezing
In her hospital bed she wrote, "Ever since I met you, the feeling has been growing in me that home was not just my home. The lemon tree which yielded so much fruit and gave us so much delight lived in other people's hearts too."

Her friendship compelled her to re-examine her strongest beliefs. She had always believed the Arabs would regard Israeli bombing raids on Palestinian targets as terrorism too. She felt that his militancy alienated Israeli like herself who believe in Palestinian national rights, but wrote that his deportation was wrong, because it made him a refugee for a second time and deprived his children of a father, which would make them hate Israel even more.

"Our childhood memories, yours and mine, are intertwined in a tragic way. If we cannot find means to transform that tragedy into a shared blessing, our clinging to the past will destroy our future."

The letter concluded: Allah Ma'ak — may God be with you.
Dalia.

She wrote unforgivingly about his guerrilla actions, but accepted that he would regard Israeli bombing raids on Palestinian targets as terrorism too. She felt that his militancy alienated Israeli like herself who believe in Palestinian national rights, but wrote that his deportation was wrong, because it made him a refugee for a second time and deprived his children of a father, which would make them hate Israel even more.

"Our childhood memories, yours and mine, are intertwined in a tragic way. If we cannot find means to transform that tragedy into a shared blessing, our clinging to the past will destroy our future."

The letter concluded: Allah Ma'ak — may God be with you.
Dalia.

said Saiful Sulun, Parliament's Deputy Speaker for the military.

Last September, a spokesman for the military in Parliament said the armed forces wanted to see far tougher action against those who took kickbacks.

Indonesia's armed forces have an automatic 100 members in the 500-seat national Parliament of the sprawling archipelago of 172 million people.

Some officials have called for all ministers, high-ranking civil servants and members of Parliament to declare their financial status before taking office.

Some members of the judiciary feel Suharto's call for a crack-down means there may be a real drive to reduce graft.

Alarming
"The fact is that people now feel that corruption has reached an alarming stage and that prompt legal measures are imperative," said Nursyahbani Katjasungkana, director of the watchdog Jakarta Legal Aid Institute.

Foreign and domestic businessmen have pressured Indonesia to clean up the system of bribes and pay-offs which adds a euphemistically-styled "high-cost" to the nation's economy.

Japan has specifically singled out corruption as a factor deterring investment in Indonesia.

But the President, expected to be reappointed for a fifth five-year term as head of the world's largest Muslim nation in March, has said action requires concrete proof of corruption.

"If we cannot prove the offence, it will only be an empty charge. There will be no (legal) action because ours is a state based on law," he declared.

"If the corrupt man's wrongdoings are not found out by his fellow men on earth, it will be unmasked in the hereafter," he said.



Reagan

MOSCOW. (AP): Mikhail Gorbachev's blueprints for building a better Soviet state and reducing the nuclear threat will be tested in 1988 by an extraordinary Communist Party session and US President Ronald Reagan's first call on the Kremlin.

The party conference, the first in 47 years, is beyond the scope of a party congress held every five years. It will open on June 28 and provide a forum for discussing and judging the progress of "perestroika," Gorbachev's effort to inspire the work force to produce more now to get more later.

Gorbachev will complete his third year in power in March, but little improvement has been noted so far in industrial output or in the quality and quantity of goods available to Soviets.

The Soviet Union and the United States are at work on a treaty to cut strategic nuclear weapons by 50 per cent, but the



Jakes

tempo of past disarmament talks casts doubt on prospects for an agreement before Reagan's expected visit to Moscow in May or June for his fourth meeting with Gorbachev.

Sensitive
The year also marks the 1,000th anniversary of Christendom in Soviet Russia, a major occasion for the Christian minority but one drawing little attention from atheistic officials. Religion remains a sensitive subject among Soviets, despite a constitutional right to worship and the "glasnost" campaign encouraging greater openness.

For Eastern Europe, 1988 is expected to bring hardship. Poland and Hungary face price increases and other austerity measures in the name of economic reform.

In Romania, sharp energy cutbacks and food shortages might provoke more unrest, and Yugoslavia's worsening economic, political and social crises could mean trouble for the government of Premier Branko Mikulic.

East German and Bulgarian officials have voiced support for Soviet-style reforms, but little change has taken place despite indications of public support.

It also remains to be seen whether Czechoslovakia's new leader, Milos Jakes, will advocate economic reform.

Western Europe

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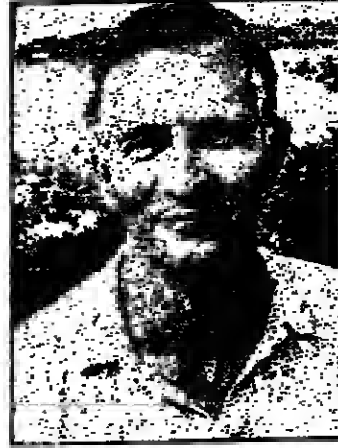
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nobrega sees debt accord in first half of 1988

SAO PAULO, Jan 18, (Reuters): Finance Minister Mailson Nobrega said in an interview published yesterday he was optimistic Brazil would reach a debt accord with creditors in the first half of 1988.

The interview coincided with talks which began in New York between bankers and a Brazilian delegation led by Central Bank governor Fernando Milhet on how to relieve Brazil's commercial debt problems.

Nobrega told the newspaper O Estado de Sao Paulo that Brazil would adopt a pragmatic stance in order to reach agreement quickly.

Nobrega, a non-party technocrat, took over the finance ministry last week. Brazil's foreign debt totals \$113 billion. Asked if he would introduce changes in Brazilian debt proposals, he said he would change some basic points.

Agreement
"In the first place, we are ready to sign an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). But this is not a precondition for arriving at an agreement with the banks. It is not necessary that first of all we make an agreement with the fund, to make one afterwards with the banks."

"The negotiation can be parallel, but there will not be a link between these accords. We are going to be pragmatic enough to make a quick agreement because this is important."

Nobrega said it would clearly not be possible to reach an accord with banks by the established deadline of Friday, but there were mechanisms for delaying the deadline.

"We are optimistic and believe that we are going to reach an accord in the first half of 1988," he said.

Brazil will be more secretive than in the past about its debt strategy, he said.
"We have said that the strategy of the external debt has to be secret. I think Brazil has made public statements about this strategy, giving time to creditors to prepare themselves and examine our proposals before sitting down at the negotiating table," he said.

Venezuela earns \$13m from coal exports

CARACAS, Jan 18, (Opecna): Venezuelan coal exports from the Guasara mines in Zulia state have generated more than \$13 million in foreign currency since the first overseas shipment was made in November 1987.

Coal exports are expected to reach about one million tons this year and plans are in hand to increase the level to 6.5 million tons by 1995.

The Guasara mines are operated by Carbozulia, a joint venture between Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA), the state oil company, ACC Venezuela Inc. and Agip Carbone of Italy.

PDVSA holds a 49 per cent interest in Carbozulia which was set up last year to develop the Zulia state coal deposits.

Arrangements
Under the arrangements with ACC Venezuela Inc. and Agip Carbone, Carbozulia is assured access to sophisticated coal development technology and participation in trade networks in consuming countries.

To handle the Carbozulia coal, PDVSA is likely to open an overseas office in the Dutch Antilles with headquarters in the Netherlands.

GM to sell assembly line to China

BEIJING, Jan 18, (AP): General Motors Corp. has agreed to sell a \$16.5 million second-hand assembly line to a Beijing engine factory, an official report said today.

GM and Beijing's general international combustion engine factory are to sign the contract on Thursday.

Operation
The assembly line started operation in 1982, with a production capacity of 300,000 two-litre engines a year, but stopped operation in 1984, the state-run Xinhua news agency said. It did not say why the line was stopped.

The assembly line is expected to start operation in Beijing in late 1990 and to put out 150,000 engines in 1992, it said. The Chinese company will pay for the equipment over 10 years, it added.

Opec cuts output

Oil price haggling reduces purchases

NICOSIA, Jan 18, (AP): Haggling over oil price continues and the amount of Opec crude being lifted by Japanese and Western buyers is lower than expected in January, an oil newsletter reported today.

Overall, the respected Middle East Economic Survey quoted Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman, president of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, as saying current Opec output is down to between 16 and 16.5 million barrels a day, 2.5-3 million barrels a day less than the level in the fourth quarter of 1987.

MEES said that Kuwait's National Oil Company was

"locked into tough negotiations with its Japanese customers on price terms for contract crude."

With some Opec crude, particularly Iranian, selling at prices well under the Opec-decreed \$18 a barrel, the Japanese buyers are insisting on price concessions.

"The Kuwaitis are understood to have felt obliged to examine their price options following widespread market discounting elsewhere, particularly the offering of large volumes of Iranian crude in Europe," the Nicosia-based newsletter said.

Meanwhile it said that Idemitsu, the largest Japanese user of Kuwaiti crude, "has served official notice of its

decision to terminate its contracts" for 120,000 barrels a day of Kuwaiti oil, with effect from Jan 31.

MEES said that Abu Dhabi, the largest producer in the UAE has flatly refused to consider lowering its prices from the Opec level to market levels. It said that as a result first quarter production in the Gulf could fall sharply from its Opec-set quota of 800,000.

Liftings
Two US shareholders in the Abu Dhabi Petroleum Co., Exxon and Mobil have decided to cancel their Abu Dhabi liftings altogether and European shareholders are expected to cut back,

it said.

In a letter to the foreign shareholder-holders, UAE Oil Minister Mana Saeed Oteiba said, "we would blame you for any economic damage that may be experienced by the UAE as a result of any measures you make take," MEES said.

The letter flatly refused to discuss discounts, "whoever wishes to pursue our oil, this is our price. And whoever does not accept, we have no oil for him" it said.

Negative
Oteiba said the attitude of the companies was "negative" and "would create problems that would spread and affect all."

MEES said Japan and Iran are still negotiating price but in the meantime, despite Iranian price concessions, Japanese purchases for January and February "will fall substantially short of the original target of 242,000 barrels a day."

As of now the totals look like 100,000 barrels a day for January and 200,000 for February.

MEES said it understands that Nigerian production has fallen from its Opec-set quota of 1.3 million barrels a day in around 1 million barrels a day.

The newsletter said this is due to buyers unwilling to pay official prices and Nigeria unwilling to offer oil at market-related prices.

No sudden move to push economic measures

Takeshita likely to go slow at home

TOKYO, Jan 18, (Reuters): Japan's Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita is not likely to move quickly to push economic and market-opening measures discussed during his first official visit to Washington last week.

A cautious approach could increase his ultimate chance of success at home but could spark US ire over what Americans see as a glacial pace of change, political analysts said.

Endure
"The problem is how to execute what he told the United States when he comes back. The problem is whether the US government can endure the speed at which he will try to do this," Bank of Tokyo advisor Teruhiko Mano said.

"He didn't get bogged down in specifics, which probably helped advance his position at home," said one analyst. "That means all the hard business is unfinished—which is now being wanted to keep it."



Noboru Takeshita

Takeshita's visit has already provoked sharp criticism from private American industry, US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter and key US congressmen.

Senator John Danforth said

the visit had not changed his views on the need for a tough trade bill.

Japanese business leaders welcomed news of a Reagan-Takeshita agreement to intervene in markets to stop any further slide by the dollar, but currency dealers and economists were sceptical.

Besides worries over exchange rates, Takeshita will have to deal with two thorny market-opening issues upon his return. The US had demanded that Japan open its public works projects to US construction firms.

Import
It has also insisted Japan dismantle quotas on its imports of beef, oranges and orange juice by the end of March, when a four-year pact setting quotas on these goods expires.

During Takeshita's visit, the US and Japan agreed to start talks on ways to allow more foreign participation in government-funded construction projects.

Takeshita also told reporters in Washington he had made it clear to Reagan that Japan would accept a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) panel recommendation calling for Tokyo to scrap import quotas on 10 farm goods by February.

But analysts said Takeshita carefully avoided making any hard and fast pledges which could make him vulnerable to direct attack from supporters of his ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

But while the impression Takeshita is dragging his feet may fan US anger, his cautious, consensus-building may ultimately reap success.

"Diplomacy is not possible without domestic political strength," said deputy chief cabinet secretary Ichiro Ozawa in a press interview. "Those who are strong in domestic politics are strong in diplomacy as well."

Italian team for Indonesia

JAKARTA, Jan 18, (Opecna): Indonesia will set up a geothermal power plant on Mount Salak, about 60 km south of here, under a \$71 million loan from Italy.

The loan, discussed during the recent visit of Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Giuseppe Goria here, will also include rupiah funds for local expenditures of about \$8.20 million.

Plant

Work on the plant, to consist of two 55 MW generating units, will begin this year and is scheduled for completion in 1992.

The main construction will be carried out by an Italian contractor, but Indonesian firms will also participate.

According to State Minister for National Development Dr Johannes Berchman Sumarlin, the loan agreement will be signed shortly.

US trade figures give Fed more flexibility

WASHINGTON, Jan 18, (Reuters): The sharp fall in November's US trade deficit and promising inflation data should give the Federal Reserve Board more room to cut interest rates if the economy slows as some forecasters fear, economists say.

At the same time, a long-awaited cut in the persistently high trade deficit should help offset protectionist pressures in Congress giving the Fed more flexibility to manage the US economy.

"They don't need to defend the dollar and they have extremely favourable inflation news," said Bruce Smith, senior economist with IDS Financial Services, a Minneapolis-based subsidiary of American Express Co.

Narrowed

The Commerce Department reported on Friday that the month's US trade deficit had narrowed to \$13.22 billion in November from October's record 17.63 billion deficit as exports surged and imports dropped.

The deficit drop was greater than had been anticipated and the news sparked a powerful rally in world financial markets that had been fretting about the United States' massive trade imbalance and its implications for a weaker dollar.

At the same time, the US Labour Department reported that wholesale prices dropped by

0.3 per cent in December, after they were unchanged in November.

"We're probably past the high water mark on the trade deficit," Smith said. "The 17.6 billion deficit (in October) was probably the high water mark."

Economists have been concerned about fallout from the October 19 "Black Monday" stock market crash. Many, including the Reagan administration, scaled back their forecasts for economic growth this year after the crash.

Rates
But at the same time, a weakening dollar in the face of huge federal budget and trade deficits raised fears that the United States, under pressure from its key trading partners, would have to raise interest rates to defend the currency.

US policymakers have appeared reluctant to see interest rates go higher which could threaten economic growth during this presidential election year.

Favourable inflation and trade reports means the Fed has a better opportunity to lower rates to boost growth if an expected slowdown in consumer spending begins to drag on the economy.

"If the dollar stabilises and goes up then the Fed is more apt to lower interest rates when the economy weakens," said Mickey

Levy, senior economist at Philadelphia's Fidelity Bank.

Internationally coordinated central bank intervention helped stabilise the US unit before Friday's trade data sent it sharply higher.

Levy said he expects to see continued improvement in the trade deficit next month when the government will report trade numbers for December. Even so, Commerce Department Secretary William Verity said the 1987 trade deficit is likely to be another record of at least \$170 billion.

US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said the US trade balance will continue to improve, giving Congress little reason for passing protectionist trade legislation.

"All the fundamentals remain in place for the deficit to decline further in 1988. There is never a good time to erect protectionist trade barriers, but this would clearly be the worst possible time to do so," Yeutter said in a statement.

The improved trade data and inflation outlook takes some pressure off administration policymakers, economists said.

Some economists believe financial markets are paying undue attention to monthly numbers that may be unreliable and are not adjusted to take into account seasonal factors.

Safety net restored for cocoa prices

LONDON, Jan 18, (AP): International intervention-buying in support of a minimum world price for cocoa above the current average market level can resume next Tuesday, leading cocoa producing and consuming countries agreed.

"I hope this decision will help to stabilise the market," said Peter Baron, the consumers' West German spokesman.

Producer delegates generally welcomed the accord, saying that intervention-buying should offset downward pressures on prices from world overproduction and benefit their cash-strapped economies.

"The agreement will provide the market with a safety net," said a Dutch trader, who had forecast a slump in prices next week if the talks had ended in failure. The trader spoke on condition of anonymity.

However, some producers expressed disappointment that more was not achieved at the meeting of the 37-nation International Cocoa Organisation, which began in London on Wednesday.

Supplies
"Sometimes, better a bad agreement than none at all," said chief Ivorian delegate Theodore Del Mel, country's ambassador to Britain.

The cocoa organisation has treaty power to regulate world supplies and prices by buying surplus cocoa for its buffer stock.

Buffer stock-buying has been suspended since mid-June pending a revision of the minimum price to be defended.

Saturday's agreement, according to the text released by the cocoa organisation, cuts the old undelivered price by 115 Special Drawing Rights to 1,485 per metric ton.

A Special Drawing Right, or SDR, is a unit created by the International Monetary Fund currently worth fractionally under \$1.39. Its value is calculated daily on the basis of the market value of five major currencies.

Lacked

The average cocoa price on the New York and London markets on Friday was \$1,423.06 SDRs, equivalent to \$1,977.88, according to cocoa organisation calculations.

Plambeck said that the cocoa organisation held \$140 million, which would be enough to buy 70,000 tons of cocoa.

Delegates said the manager lacked enough cash to buy the maximum 75,000 tons permitted under the cocoa price-stabilisation treaty because of arrears in payment to the buffer stock by the Ivory Coast of \$30 million and by Brazil of \$6 million.

Agreement to reactivate buffer stock-buying was accompanied by the approval of possible supplementary price-support measures, according to the official text.

Britoil rejects BP takeover bid

LONDON, Jan 18, (UPI): North Sea oil explorer Britoil rejected this week a £2.27 billion takeover approach from British Petroleum (BP), claiming the bid undervalued its assets.

Britoil said a team of petroleum consultants it had commissioned to produce an independent valuation was expected to give an asset value substantially higher than the 450 pence (\$8.10) a share offer from BP.

BP unveiled details of its bid on Thursday. Financial analysts were surprised at the low price BP put on Britoil—repeating the 450 pence (\$8.10) a share offer announced before Christmas, and adding a cash and shares alternative.

Forecasts
Although other forecasts by analysts of the value of this had ranged as high as £5 (\$9), BP offered just one of its own shares and 190 pence (\$3.42) cash for each Britoil share.

When BP announced its intention to bid towards the end of last year, the plan immediately ran into difficulties when the govern-

ment said it would use its controlling "Golden Share" in Britoil to prevent any bidder gaining control.

Britoil's independent valuation is likely to form one of the main planks of its formal defence against the offer, to be posted to its 180,000 shareholders shortly, analysts said.

BP has already built up a near 30 per cent stake in its target.

The publication of the BP's offer document leaves the field clear for Britoil's other suitors, US energy giant Atlantic Richfield, to make its play for the oil independent.

Aggressive
At the moment Atlantic has about 23 per cent of Britoil following aggressive purchasing in the market.

The US group is Britoil's favoured partner and has already announced plans to take its holding to just short of 50 per cent.

Rumours of a new North Sea oil find could force BP to increase its offer for Britoil, oil analysts said.

For some weeks now stock

market analysts, in a private newsletter circulated to its clients, have speculated that Britoil is about to announce a find in exploration block 9-23B, east of Orkney, Scotland where it has recently drilled a well.

Thousands of foreign investors in privatised aero-engines giant Rolls-Royce, face huge losses from a forced sale of their shares next month.

The action will be taken by the company to cut the overseas stake in the company by about five per cent, to the 15 per cent limit set by the government at the time of the sell-off last May.

Deadline
In November, Rolls-Royce set a deadline of early January for the 8,000 foreign institutions and private investors to sell the excess.

They had been earmarked on a "last in, first out" basis, but in the wake of October's stock market crash proved unwilling to offload their stock.

Many paid well over 200 pence (\$3.6) for their shares last year, but like all other quoted firms,

Rolls-Royce were savaged by the crash. Currently the shares are trading around 127 pence (\$2.28).

Britain's high streets could soon be seeing branches of Deutsche Bank, Credit Lyonnais and Banca Di Roma, as a common market blueprint out this week.

In return, Britain's household banking names such as Barclays and Lloyds would start springing up in town centres all over Europe.

The proposals, which need to be approved by finance ministers from all 12 EEC states, are part of the Common Market's aim of creating a "single financial space" by 1992.

Winner
Britain, with its traditional expertise in banking, is set to be a winner in any regulated environment.

But other long-established banking centres in Europe, such as Amsterdam and Frankfurt, are likely to give the high street big four banks a run for their money.

Turkish team for Iran

TEHRAN, Jan 18, (Opecna): A Turkish delegation will visit Iran next month to finalise a report on the proposed pipeline which will link Iran's southern oilfields with an outlet on the Turkish Mediterranean coast. This was stated here yesterday by Iran's Deputy Petroleum Minister Mohammad Javad Asemipour on his return from Turkey after 10 days of talks at the head of a delegation on the \$4-billion pipeline. He said the pipeline was a long-term project aimed at making Iran's oil prices competitive on the world oil market. He stated that the agreement to lay a pipeline was signed by the prime ministers of Turkey and Iran two years ago. They had also agreed to study the technical and economic aspects of the project.

The prime ministers had further reached an understanding on the construction of a separate gas pipeline for supply of Iranian gas to Turkey and Europe.

World Business Summary

15 pc rise in US farm exports predicted

WASHINGTON, Jan 18, (AP): Farm exports should reach \$32 billion in fiscal 1988, a full 15 per cent more than last year, the Agricultural Department says.

Increasing sales of wheat in China and Egypt, soybeans and cotton to Japan and the European Economic Community, and soybeans, soybean meal and wheat to the Soviet Union should fuel the trend, the department said in a report.

It forecasts a US trade surplus in farm products of \$11.5 billion for the 12 months that began Oct 1, an increase of \$4.3 billion from the previous year and the highest level since 1984.

The department placed the surplus in agricultural goods for October at \$853 million, an increase of \$96 million over September.

The department forecasts farm export volume this year to rise to 141 million tons, 12 million tons more than 1987. The improvement reflected a drop in the dollar combined with weather problems for some foreign producers. Authorities also say costly subsidy programmes enacted in 1985 are contributing to the upswing.

Improved sales mark a further turn away from the doldrums of the early 1980s when enormous farm surpluses accumulated and prices sank sharply.

Japan leads the list of potential markets for the increased US farm exports over the next three years in five years, according to a study published by the department's Foreign Agricultural Service.

Based on economic, trade and demographic indicators, Japan ranked first among 20 potential markets in the study.

Four of the top 10 came from the newly industrialised Pacific Basin and four from the European Economic Community. The study said cash-rich countries such as Japan, Taiwan and West Germany are ripe for high-value products such as processed foods, beef, fruits and vegetables, as well as the fast-food industry, restaurants and wood products.

US automakers report 17.1 pc profit in car sales

DETROIT, Jan 18, (UPI): The nation's automakers yesterday reported a 17.1 per cent gain in sales of domestically made cars for the first 10 days of January, while sales of light trucks rose 31.8 per cent from year-ago levels despite a cold snap which paralysed dealerships. While the freezing temperatures that gripped most of the nation during the period somewhat dented sales figures, they were being measured against a year-ago period when showroom activity all but evaporated following a late rush in 1986 to buy before the tax laws changed for 1987. The eight companies, General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co., Chrysler Corp., Honda Motor Corp., Volkswagen of America, Nissan Motor Manufacturing USA, Toyota Motor Sales USA, and Mazda Motor Manufacturing (USA) Corp., reported combined sales of 110,353 cars, or 15,765 cars per day, during the Jan 1-10 period. This compares with 107,735 units or 13,467 cars per day, sold in the year-ago period. Sales of US-made light trucks totalled 59,413 or 8,488 units per day, up 31.8 per cent from 51,524 or 6,441 units sold per day a year ago. Both domestic and import carmakers sold about 10.2 million cars last year, down 10.6 per cent from 1986. Light truck sales reached a record 4.9 million units, up 1 per cent from the previous year. For the latest Jan 1-10 period, GM's sales rose a scant 3.9 per cent, while Ford posted a strong 55.5 per cent gain. Chrysler, which acquired American Motors Corp. last year, reported a 14.2 per cent gain in sales when compared with the combined total a year ago. Among the smaller companies, sales of Honda's US-built models rose 25.7 per cent, while Volkswagen domestic-made models showed an 18.3 per cent rise. Nissan posted an 8.1 per cent decrease in sales on a daily selling rate. Toyota's domestically-made car sales were off 29.4 per cent. Mazda said it sold only 83 of its new MX6 coupes produced at its Michigan assembly plant.

Evren visits Algeria to boost economic cooperation

ANKARA, Jan 18, (Reuters): Turkey opens a drive to win foreign recognition for its economic success and efforts to achieve democracy when President Kenan Evren visits Algeria tomorrow. Turkey was cold-shouldered diplomatically after crackdowns following a military coup in 1980 and international caution persisted when former top politicians were barred from standing in elections in 1983. But diplomats said they judged that the election which returned centre-right Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to power last November was fair. The poll was open to all except communists and other radicals.

Evren's visit to Algeria is the first by a Turkish head of state. It is also his first visit to any country west of Turkey since the 1980 coup and the first state trip in a series planned for 1988. Britain's Queen Elizabeth has invited him for a visit possibly in April and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, ideologically close to Ozal, is due to come to Turkey sometime before June to boost relations and business ties.

"The miserable days have been left behind," Algerian ambassador Mohamed El Hadi Hamdoun told the Turkish Daily News newspaper. He was referring to Turkey's abstention in the UN vote on Algerian independence and disagreements about Cyprus and ethnic Turks in Bulgaria. Hamdoun said a deal to supply 1.5 million cubic metres of liquefied natural gas to Turkey might be signed during the visit, helping to even out a trade imbalance in Turkey's favour.

Turkey, selling mostly meat, textiles and white goods, recorded around \$110 million worth of sales to Algeria in the first 10 months of 1987 but bought only \$31 million worth of goods from Algeria, almost all oil products. Evren will be accompanied by officials of the state pipeline company Botas, Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz and State Minister Kazim Oksay, officials said. The improvement in Turkish-Algerian relations was reflected by the arrival of 33,000 Algerian tourists in Turkey last year, up from 4,000 in 1984.

Agricultural output rises

RIYADH, Jan 18, (Opecna): During the 1987 season, the Saudi Arabian National Company for Agricultural Development produced 56,627 tons of wheat, 24,024 tons of barley and over 72,000 tons of fodder, according to Dr Abdulrahman Al Sheikh, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources. Al Sheikh, who chaired the meeting of the company's board of directors here at the weekend, said the company's date factory produced 1,200 tons during same season. The minister added that the company exported a large quantity of fodder to fellow members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), noting that dairy plants produced about 50,000 litres of milk daily in addition to dairy products.

Plan to step up trade ties

DOHA, Jan 18, (Opecna): Qatar and India plan to step up bilateral trade and seek closer economic and technical cooperation. This was the main thrust of the meeting here this weekend of the Indo-Qatari joint commission on technical cooperation. The Indian side was headed by Indian Foreign Secretary A. Gonsalves, while the Qatari delegation was led by undersecretary of Industry and Agriculture Ahmed Al Mana. At the opening session, the Indian official said that his country was interested in exploring the scope and basis for financial and technical cooperation in Qatari plans to exploit its huge gas reserves and to establish an aluminium project.

He also pledged to improve the trade balance between India and Qatar.

India mainly imports fertilisers from Qatar which buys food-stuff from the South Asian country.

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	143/0	143/0
ABBEE LFE	253/0		
ALD LTONS	341.0		
ANGSTRAD	140/6		
ARGILL GP	193/0		
ASDA WFI	172/0		
A B FOODS	307/0		
BAA PP	99.0		
BTR	273/0		
BAT INDS	450.0		
BARCLAYS	496/0		
BASS	785/0		
BEAZER	192/0		
BEECHAM	467/0		
BET ORD	240/0		
BICC PLC	338/0		
BLUE ARW	103/0		
BLUE CIRC	420/0		
BOC GP	398/0		
BOOTS CO	255/0		
BRB INDS	265/0		
BR COM	335/6		
BR AIRWAY	168/0		
BR AEROSP	358.0		
BR GAS PP	135/0		
B.P. NEW	77/0		
BR TELCOM	234/0		
BRITTOIL	436/0		
BUNZL	162/0		
BURMAN OL	422/0		
BURTON	230/0		
CABLESWIR	370.0		
CADBURYS	550/0		
COMATS WY	267/6		
COMINT	353/0		
COMS GOLD	880/0		
COOKSONS	540/0		
COURTAULD	348/0		
DALGETY	306/0		
DEE CP	200/0		
DIXONS	183/0		
ENG CHINA	418/0		
ENTER OIL	293/0		
FERRANTI	90/0		
FISCHS	267/0		
GEN ACCIO	850/0		
GEN ELEC	155/0		
GEN OIL	133/0		
GRANADA	300/0		
GLOBE	137/0		
GOLD MET	448/0		
GUS A	085/0		
GUARD RYL	870/0		
GKN	314/6		
GUINNESS	305/6		
HMMERS A	525/0		
HANSON	141/0		
MAKER SIO	473/0		
HAULEY	99/4		
HILLSDOWN	292/0		

LONDON (Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
A.B. ELECT	368/0	365/0
APV PLC	124/0	125/0
ARROWSON	115/0	116/0
AAR HDLG	307/0	309/0
ACATOS-HIT	463/0	463/0
ADDITION G	95/0	96/0
ADVEST GP	290/0	291/0
ALISA	145/0	145/0
ALEX URKV	172/0	173/0
ALLIANCE	767/0	765/0
ALL COLL	135/0	134/0
ALLD PLC	50/0	51/0
AMARI PLC	150/0	150/0
AMEC PLC	339/0	341/0
AMER TRUS	112/0	112/0
AMERSHAM	467/0	468/0
ANGLIA TV	384/0	386/0
ANSBACHER	69/0	68/0
APP HCL	359/0	357/0
APPLYARD	335/0	338/0
APRICOT	47/0	48/0
ARMSTRONG	155/0	156/0
ARMCO O'S	375/0	378/0
ARISTOCRUM	260/0	260/0
ASHLEY L	130/0	131/0
AUTO SEC	239/0	240/0
AVIS GRP	449/4	449/4
AVON RUBB	635/0	640/0
BAA GP	146/0	148/0
BSG INTL	68/0	68/0
BAILL JAP	407/0	411/0
BK OF SCO	550/0	552/0
BARKER DO	138/0	142/0
BARRY DEV	175/0	176/0
B.MEMILL	149/0	150/0
BEJAN GP	192/0	193/0
BELHAY	46/4	47/0
BELLWAY	210/0	210/0
BENROSE	211/0	210/0
BENLOX NO	33/0	34/0
U-BENNETT	44/0	44/0
BENTALL	160/0	161/0
BERTSFORD	318/0	319/0
BERRY	269/0	269/0
BLK LE 2	19/6	19/4
BOASE MAS	267/0	267/0
BODDINGTO	145/0	146/0
BOOKER PL	403/0	405/0
BORTHWICK	54/0	55/0
BOUYER	367/0	368/0
BOUYORP	164/0	165/0
BRAMMER	233/0	233/0
BRENT CHE	135/0	136/0
BRENT MCR	310/0	311/0
BRIDON	155/0	158/0
BRITANNIC	995/0	995/0
BR LIND CO	260/0	263/0
BR VITA	444/0	445/0
BRITTON E	230/0	232/0
BRTANT GP	136/0	137/0

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCOM	31/3	31/5
ATLANTIC R	72/6	72/4
ARCORP	0	18/3
AETNA LIFE	46/0	46/0
ALASKA AIR	14/3	14/3
ALCAN ALUM	27/5	27/4
ALCO STAND	21/4	21/5
AM CAP SEC	24/2	23/6
AM CYANA	47/1	47/0
AM FAMILY	13/4	13/6
AM HON PRO	74/1	74/3
AM STANCO	37/4	37/3
AMER T	29/0	29/1
AMOCO CP	73/0	73/0
AMP INC	47/1	47/0
AMPCO PITT	14/2	14/1
AMR CORP	34/6	34/4
AMR GEN CO	32/0	31/6
AMROA HES	24/4	24/4
ANTHEM ELE	9/6	9/5
APACHE CP	8/0	8/1
APACHE PET	4/3	4/3
ARCO INC	11/0	11/0
ASARCO INC	23/2	23/0
ASHLAND OIL	54/6	54/6
ATLS CORP	34/7	35/0
ATV CORP	21/1	21/1
AVERT INC	21/1	21/1
AVON PRODS	24/2	24/2
WELLS PAC	37/2	37/2
HILLBROOK	25/4	25/4
JILTN HTLS	73/4	73/4
HITACHI	100/0	102/4
HOMESTAKE	16/3	16/3
ANDY-HARMN	15/4	15/4
HOLIDAY C	24/5	24/5
HONE DEPOT	18/0	18/0
HOM FES	21/5	21/7
HONDA MOTR	105/4	107/4
HONEYWELL	58/5	58/7
HOUSTON IN	27/2	27/0
HOUSTON MI	31/4	31/3
HUGHES SUP	24/5	24/3
HUMANA INC	21/0	21/2
HUTTON EF	28/7	29/0
IBM	118/7	119/5
IC INDUST	31/2	31/4
ICN PHARM	7/6	7/5
ILL PAID CO	24/5	24/2
INCO LTD	21/0	21/1
INTEGRAL-RA	35/4	35/3
INTL MINER	50/5	50/7
JOHNSON-S	74/2	73/7
K MART CP	31/6	32/0
KARL ALM	11/0	11/0
KELLOGG	51/4	51/0
KERR-MCGEE	34/4	34/2
KEYSTONE	15/7	16/1
KIDDE INC	0	63/0
KIM-CLARK	48/0	47/6
KLM R OAI	16/1	16/0
KRAFT INC	50/2	50/0
KROGER CP	26/7	27/1
LEARN PETRL	1/5	1/5
LEHMAN	11/6	11/5
LENNAR	17/2	17/1
LILLY ELI	78/6	78/3
LINCOLN NA	43/5	44/0
LITTON IND	72/0	71/7
LOCKHEED	36/2	36/5
LOTTITE CP	29/2	29/4
LOUIS CORP	67/0	67/0
LOW-METTEL	18/1	17/7
LYON STAR	26/2	26/0
LOAN	18/0	17/7
MONT ASS	2/2	2/2
MARIETTA	44/0	43/7
MA CO INC	9/7	9/6
MACHILLAN	56/0	55/6
MANNHATTAN	10/0	9/7
MANN CARE	11/5	11/7
MANNOR	20/5	20/5
MARRIOTT	29/3	29/2
MASCO CORP	22/7	22/5
MATSU ELEC	180/0	185/0
MATEL INC	7/2	7/1
MCAL INCORP	36/0	35/7
MCALWALDS	44/7	44/7
MCGRATH-HIL	50/0	50/0
MCGRATH	33/4	33/5
MCNECK - CO	152/0	150/7
MCNECK	30/2	30/4
MCNECK LY	23/6	23/3
MESA OFFSH	1/3	1/2
MOBIL OIL	40/5	40/7
MONARK OAT	0	51/4
MONSANTO	80/2	80/5
MORGAN JIP	34/1	34/0
MORT THIO	40/0	40/0
MOTOROLA	47/3	47/1
MRSH-MCLEN	48/2	48/1
MURPHY OIL	24/5	24/3
NAT INTERG	17/2	17/1
NBI CORP	4/0	4/0
NCR CORP	60/6	61/1

NEW ENGLAND

NAME	LAST	22/5	22/7
NEW ENGL EL	13/5	13/4	13/4
NEW PL RE	30/0	30/0	30/0
NEWELL CO	34/1	34/1	34/1
NEWMONT NI	36/7	36/6	36/6
NEWELL GLO	24/2	24/2	24/2
NICOR INC	6/0	6/0	6/0
NI INDS	12/7	13/0	13/0
NOBLE AFF	7/5	7/4	7/4
NORD RESOU	28/6	29/5	29/5
NORTON	44/5	44/5	44/5
NOVO IND	24/2	24/2	24/2
NUCOR CORP	40/0	40/0	40/0
OAK INDS	1/2	1/2	1/2
OCCIDENTAL	25/0	25/0	25/0
OCEAN DRIL	16/3	16/4	16/4
ODEN CORP	26/7	27/1	27/1
OH ED CO	20/1	20/1	20/1
OHIO MATT	14/6	14/6	14/6
OLIN CORP	41/4	41/3	41/3
OMNICARE	6/3	6/3	6/3
ORION PICT	11/6	11/5	11/5
PAINE WEB	15/6	15/5	15/5
PAN AM W A	3/0	2/7	2/7
PANHANDLE	23/0	23/0	23/0
PARK ELECT	14/5	14/7	14/7
PARKER DRI	35/6	35/6	35/6
PARKER HAN	3/4	3/4	3/4
PATSCO PET	12/0	11/7	11/7
PATSCO CSH	5/7	5/6	5/6
PULLMAN CO	90/0	91/2	91/2
PC INDS-90	42/0	42/3	42/3
PENNY JC	40/4	40/4	40/4
PENNYCOIL	67/7	67/5	67/5
PEOPLES EN	18/2	18/3	18/3
PEPSICO	34/0	34/1	34/1
PERKIN-ELM	23/3	23/2	23/2
PFIZER	50/5	50/4	50/4
PHELPS DOD	41/4	40/6	40/6
PHILIP MOR	85/7	85/7	85/7
PILLIPS PE	13/0	13/0	13/0
PINNACLE W	28/5	28/5	28/5
PITN-BOWES	36/0	36/0	36/0
PITTSBUR	10/5	10/5	10/5
PNC FINANC	40/1	40/3	40/3
POLAROID	24/7	24/7	24/7
PRIME CORP	15/5	15/4	15/4
PRIME INNS	34/7	34/5	34/5
PRINICRA	26/2	26/2	26/2
PROCTER GR	85/4	85/4	85/4
PUEBLO INT	23/0	22/7	22/7
PUGET SP-L	19/1	19/1	19/1
PULTE HOME	8/2	8/2	8/2
QUAKER OAT	43/1	43/3	43/3
QUAKER COR	16/0	16/0	16/0
QUANTUM CH	71/6	71/4	71/4
RAI PURIN	66/5	66/6	66/6
RANADA INH	6/0	6/0	6/0
RANGER OIL	4/2	4/2	4/2
RAYCHEM	43/4	43/6	43/6
RAYMOND	7/5	7/4	7/4
RAYTHEON	66/7	66/7	66/7
REGAL INTL	0	43/4	43/4
REYNOLD ME	43/2	43/3	43/3
RJR NABISCO	47/7	47/7	47/7
ROCHES G-E	15/7	15/5	15/5
ROCKWELL	7/2	7/1	7/1
ROCKWELL	17/5	17/6	17/6
ROHNS INDS	19/0	19/1	19/1
ROLLINS EN	18/4	18/2	18/2
ROLLINS IN	16/0	15/7	15/7
ROPER CORP	16/4	16/6	16/6
ROPER GRP	44/3	44/5	44/5
ROYAL DUTCH	111/0	111/2	111/2
RYDER SYST	25/6	25/5	25/5
RYLAND GRP	14/5	14/6	14/6
S DIEG G-E	31/0	31/0	31/0
SABINE	0	13/5	13/5
SABSON	24/7	24/7	24/7
SA CO INC	9/7	9/6	9/6
SARAL LEE	36/0	36/3	36/3
SCHLIMBERG	29/6	30/0	30/0
SCOTT PPR	67/6	67/4	67/4
SCOTTTS	12/6	12/4	12/4
SE BANK CO	19/7	20/0	20/0
SEAROM	55/2	55/2	55/2
SEARULL EN	17/0	17/1	17/1
SEALED AIR	37/6	37/4	37/4
SEARS ROE	34/4	34/3	34/3

World Indices

INDEX	LAST	1/PREV-DAYS	2/PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1440.1	1436.7	1398.7	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1001.2	978.7	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	909.36	890.22	870.22
FT GOV SEC	0	87.96	87.56	88.49
FT GOLD MN	0	294.5	284.1	302.1
FT NIMES F	455.11	453.40	445.41	450.65
FT OIL	1743.1	1739.1	1699.8	1663.6
FT MLD OLR	113.55	93.00	113.46	115.04
FT MLD STG	94.76	93.00	92.12	90.72
FT WLD LDC	101.82	100.64	99.98	99.08

London Stock Market Report

U.K. SHARES BELOW HIGHS IN AFTERNOON TRADING
LONDON, JAN 18 - A FALTERING START ON WALL STREET GAVE THE SIGNAL TO PROFIT-TAKERS IN LONDON, DRAWING SHARE PRICES BACK FROM THEIR HIGHS IN QUIET AFTERNOON BUSINESS, DEALERS SAID.
BY 1514 GMT, THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS UP 11.7 POINTS TO 1,440.1 WITH THE 1,800 RESISTANCE LEVEL AGAIN PROVING DIFFICULT TO REACH FOR ANY SIGNIFICANT LENGTH OF TIME. THE FTSE INDEX TOUCHED A HIGH OF 1,806.3 AROUND MID-MORNING, PUSHING THROUGH 1,800 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE JANUARY 7.
STEADY BUYING THROUGHOUT THE MORNING WAS FUELLED BY CONTINUING OPTIMISM AFTER LAST FRIDAY'S SMALLER THAN EXPECTED U.S. MERCHANDISE TRADE DEFICIT FOR NOVEMBER, DEALERS SAID.
LONDON SHARES CONTINUED TO SHADOW WALL STREET'S PERFORMANCE AND PRICES PICKED UP LATER IN THE AFTERNOON TO REFLECT THE TENTATIVE MORNING GAIN IN THE NEW YORK MARKET.
A NUMBER OF DEALERS WERE MARY OF THE GAINS SCORED HERE SINCE FRIDAY ON THE U.S. TRADE FIGURES. "ONE (ECONOMIC) NUMBER DOESN'T REPRESENT AN UNDEVELOPING IMPROVEMENT IN THE U.S.'S GENERAL SITUATION," ONE BROKER SAID.
HE WENT ON TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT THE U.S. REMAINS UNLIKELY TO SHOW RESOLVE IN TACKLING ITS BUDGET AND TRADE DEFICITS THROUGH DIRECT ACTION IN A U.S. ELECTION YEAR. ANALYSTS BELIEVE THE DOLLAR COULD STILL BE VULNERABLE WITHOUT SUCH ACTION.

London Gold

LONDON, JAN 18 - GOLD BULLION CLOSED AT 475.50/476.00 OUNCS AN OUNCE, STEADY ON ITS AFTERNOON FIX OF 475.40, BUT WAS STILL DOWN ON FRIDAY'S LONDON CLOSE OF 481.50/482.00.
THE METAL FOUND SUPPORT AT AROUND 475 OUNCS AFTER FALLING INITIALLY IN RESPONSE TO A FIRM DOLLAR AND A WEAK CLOSE IN THE U.S. ON FRIDAY WHICH CONTINUED INTO FAR EASTERN MARKETS TODAY, DEALERS SAID.
GOLD SLIPPED THROUGH THE RECENT 478 DLR SUPPORT AS THE DOLLAR HELD ITS GROUND FOLLOWING FRIDAY'S SMALLER THAN EXPECTED U.S. TRADE DEFICIT, BUT EARLY GAINS IN THE U.S. TODAY PREVENTED THE MARKET SLIPPING FURTHER, THEY ADDED.

London Money Market

LONDON, JAN 18 - MONEY RATES ENDED AROUND 1/16 POINT EASIER BUT THE VIEW REMAINS THAT THE NEXT MOVEMENT IN BASE RATES WILL BE UPWARDS AND THE MARKET IS ONLY WAITING FOR A SIGNAL FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND, DEALERS SAID.
SEVERAL FACTORS WERE MENTIONED BY DEALERS TO EXPLAIN TODAY'S SLIGHT SOFTENING, NOT LEAST A REACTION TO THE FIRING WHICH FOLLOWED THE IMMEDIATE DOLLAR RALLY ON FRIDAY'S SMALLER THAN EXPECTED U.S. NOVEMBER TRADE DEFICIT.
THE STEADIER PERFORMANCE OF STERLING TODAY AND A 1.1 PCT FALL IN U.K. RET

Paris — Caisse Nationale De Credit Agricole said it is issuing for its own account a two billion franc domestic bond in two equal tranches of one billion francs, one with a fixed coupon and the other with a variable.

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local inter-bank transactions as reported by participants in Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday:

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	3-9/16	4-1/16
3 months	4-5/16	4-7/8
6 months	4-13/16	5-1/4
1 year	4-3/16	5-3/4

Arab Times Advertising
4816326/7

Gold prices down

Dollar and shares hold ground

NEW YORK, Jan 18, (Reuters): The dollar was little changed and stocks were higher in very light trading today on the holiday, commemorating the birth of the assassinated US civil rights leader Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

While stocks and currency markets were open, the US government, treasury markets and many banks were closed. Stocks traders said volume was expected to decline markedly by late afternoon.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 8 points at 1,964 on very slow mid-morning turnover of 82 million shares.

Boosted
Brokers said that despite the lack of major players, investor confidence was slightly boosted due to the better-than-expected decline in the US November trade deficit which was released on Friday.

Today's gain came on the heels of the 39.96 point gain in the Dow index on Friday.

The dollar held onto gains made in Friday trading, with the US currency trading in a quiet, narrow range. It was at 1.6845 marks and 130.20 yen, near Friday's close of 1.6875 marks

and 130.90 yen. The British pound was unchanged at \$1.7720.

The dollar and shares both rose on international markets today, but dealers overseas said they were wary of pushing financial markets too far, too fast in response to the sharp drop in the US trade deficit.

"While the market is able to hold onto gains, and that is a good sign of investor confidence, the Federal Reserve still needs to bring rates down a bit more before consumers come back to stocks," said a Richmond, Virginia-based stock analyst.

Decline
The 30-year US Treasury bond, considered the bellwether of the market, closed on Friday at 8.79 per cent, a sharp decline from the 9.03 per cent on Thursday, before the US trade figure was released.

In London, the FTSE 100 share index gained 0.75 per cent to rise above 1,800 points and West German shares jumped 5 per cent.

At noon the London index was a net 17 points higher at 1,803.7. However, volume was light, which dealers said mainly reflected

persistent worries over the longer-term US trade and budget position.

In Tokyo, the world's biggest market, the Nikkei 225-share average rose 306.55 points, or 1.36 per cent, to end its first trading day since Thursday at 22,910.20. But second thoughts prevailed there, too. The index had soared nearly 508 points in the first 35 minutes of trading and then eased off.

Relieved
"The market was relieved, but there are still people who want to sell," said Tadaaki Uehara, deputy general manager of Wako Securities in Tokyo. "The horizon is not totally clear yet," he added.

The price of gold, often seen as a haven when other investments weaken, was fixed in London at \$475.85 an ounce, down \$6 from Friday's close.

But despite the US report on Friday that its trade deficit for November fell to \$13.22 billion from a record monthly gap of 17.63 billion in October, investors remained nervous.

Dealers say the stubbornly high US trade deficit, along with an almost equally large budget

deficit, were at the heart of the October stock market crash.

The US government's need for funds soaked up a lot of this money — but in a sluggish world economy, economists argued that money could have been better spent investing in boosting production of goods.

Investors worried that the only way out was recession.

So Friday's report of a sharp drop in the trade deficit was good news — the dollar jumped five pennies on that news. Those European markets that were still open — London, Paris and Amsterdam — soared.

Today was Frankfurt's turn. Shares rose five per cent in active trading. Big exporters, especially car firms, posted the largest gains and the Boersen-Zeitung 30-share index rose 10.68 points, or 4.15 per cent, to open at 267.73.

Rose
Swiss shares rose 2.4 per cent, with the All-Share Swiss index up 18.4 points at 774.6. Milan's MIB index rose 3.8 per cent.

Amsterdam, which gained five per cent on Friday, opened mixed, with the CBS All-Share index up just 0.2 points at 72. The Paris house indicator slipped

0.1 percent.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rose 82.42 points, or 3.4 per cent, to 2,512.19 while Singapore shares rose 5.5 per cent and Sydney's All-Ordinaries index rose 15.8 points to 1,293.3.

Strong

Meanwhile, the US Commerce Secretary William Verity said yesterday he believes the US economy is strong enough to stabilise the dollar at about its current level, following its sharp recent decline.

"I think it's going to stabilise because of our strong economy — the fact that we have a lot of people coming to this country to invest because this is still the best place to invest," Verity said in an ABC news television interview.

But Verity declined to comment on the Reagan administration's policy regarding the level of the dollar.

"I think the call on exchange rates is really the president's and I think the president has said he feels the dollar is at about the right level," Verity said.

"And I believe that that's true and I believe the dollar will be stabilising at current levels," he continued.



Floor dealers in hectic trading at the Tokyo Stock Exchange yesterday as the dollar jumped sharply on Friday news of a narrower US trade gap in November. Asian investors go on buying spree in celebration of surprisingly trim US trade deficit and stronger dollar. (Reuters wirephoto)

EEC-GCC economic accord predicted

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, Jan 18, (AP): A representative of the European Economic Community predicted today that the first phase of an accord with Gulf Cooperation Council nations could be signed in April or May.

But the negotiator, Charles Caporale, warned at a press briefing that some conflicts must be resolved before the first-phase agreement can be signed. He arrived here Saturday for the advance talks.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the UAE. The two-stage accord that is under deliberation is meant to deal with the thorny issue of tariffs imposed by the EEC on imports of petrochemicals from the Gulf. Negotiations for the first-phase agreement, dealing with political matters between the two blocs, will take place in Brussels, Belgium, on March 2 or 3, and if successful could lead to the agreement being officially signed a month or two later, he said.

Conclusion
"The next round... in Brussels could be conclusive. We could sign this agreement in April or May. It is not unrealistic to think so," he said.

The second phase of the agreement is supposed to deal solely with trade, and might be completed in about a year.

But Caporale said a disagreement over the status of EEC tariffs on GCC petrochemicals during the negotiations for the second phase may disrupt the first phase.

The Europeans want the tariffs to be frozen between the signing of the first phase and the signing of the second. The GCC wants the tariffs rolled back.

"The only real point of conflict on the first phase agreement concerns the (tariff) standstill period," he told the reporters. "We have proposed a standstill on tariffs until the second phase can be agreed upon. That has been rejected by the GCC."

"This is one of the main points to be negotiated and is crucial to reaching an agreement."

Relations

In a prepared statement, Caporale said the two organisations wanted a formal agreement to govern their relations because of strong common political and trade relations.

"It seems not normal to have no contractual links, especially because the (European) Community has concluded a large network of agreements throughout the world and in particular with neighbour countries of the GCC," he said in a prepared statement.

IDB annual meeting planned

JEDDAH, Jan 18, (Opecna): The procedures committee of the board of governors of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) held a meeting here at the weekend to finalise arrangements for the 12th annual meeting of the board to be held on March 7 in Tunisia.

The meeting was chaired by the Tunisian Planning Minister Mohamed El Ghannouchi and included Turkish State Minister Dr Yusuf Ozal, Nassir Bin Mohamed Al Hajri, alternate governor for Qatar, and Komodor Hamidou, Cameroonian ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was also attended by IDB President Dr Ahmad Mohamed Ali.

Negotiators touring Scandinavian countries and UK

Egypt still faces problems with IMF

CAIRO, Jan 18, (Reuters): The "Egypt question" is testing Western governments again — should a poor but strategically vital ally be bailed out, come what may?

Western diplomats report that Egypt, over \$40 billion in debt, is having trouble with some of the economic reforms the International Monetary Fund (IMF) pressed on it.

A failure to satisfy the fund could affect future debt rescheduling.

IMF experts start talks in Cairo this week on what diplomats call "misunderstandings" over assessing how Egypt is complying with reforms agreed last May.

Plans
The experts will scour Egypt's books to see if its plans to curb the budget deficit, cut state subsidies, raise domestic interest rates, and revamp its exchange rate system are on target.

Egypt should have been given — or refused — a progress report by October 31 in a first review of its performance under a 250 million special drawing rights (SDR) (\$325 million) standby credits deal.

But disputes over such technical issues as the statistical basis of key indices held up the tally, the diplomats said.

Two tranches of credits totalling 44 million SDRs (\$60 million) due in September and December remain unpaid.

But the main impact of Egypt's failure to pass the IMF test would be political.

Economists say that if the first review remains unconvincing too long, the IMF accord could fall through. With it would go hopes for a further debt rescheduling from next July 1.

Egypt is now negotiating rescheduled debt payments with 18 creditor governments for January 1987 to end-of-June 1988. The talks come within a framework drawn up with the Paris Club last May after the IMF agreement was signed.

Cairo has so far agreed about \$4.3 billion worth of rescheduling with five governments — the United States (\$1.6 billion), France (\$1.6 billion), West Germany (\$500 million), Spain (400 million) and Austria (250 million).

Egyptian negotiators are now touring Scandinavian countries and Britain.

As soon as relief based on the Paris Club May accord has been finalised, Cairo is certain to apply to reschedule another 18 months' payments due by the end of 1989, diplomats say.

Crucial

"The crucial worry is that without an IMF agreement in place, there can be no guarantee the Paris Club will make further rescheduling this year," one said.

Others say the Paris Club will not even listen to Egypt if its IMF programme breaks down.

That would deprive Cairo of breathing space as it gropes for long-term solutions in an economy seeking to reconcile a population explosion, too little arable land, a heavy state sector and fickle dollar-earners like oil and tourism.

In addition, Egypt's IMF-linked reforms have to satisfy the World Bank in order to unlock project loans totalling over \$500 million, diplomats say.

President Hosni Mubarak is expected to press Egypt's case for continuing favoured treatment by Western leaders when he visits Bonn, London, Washington, Paris and Rome from January 25.

He is heading West with extra political clout after a tour of Arab allies last week. His tour underscored Egypt's potential role as a military backer to the Gulf Arabs and a counterweight to Iran.

There was speculation that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf Arab states might pump more aid and investment into Egypt, and possibly write off old debts. Such aid, if confirmed, would help Egypt to weather any rift with the IMF.

The IMF wants steeper and faster price rises for subsidised goods like bread, petrol and electricity. Cairo has raised them, but they remain well below world levels.

The fund wants Egypt to boost interest rates to attract domestic

savings and dollars sent home by Egyptians abroad. Rates are currently around 11 to 12 per cent, compared with inflation estimated at 20 to 30 per cent.

Most Western governments give Egypt good marks on a key item in the IMF package — steps to unify its post-exchange rates.

In a two-stage devaluation since May, the government has created an officially-sanctioned market rate which bankers set daily and currently about 2.20 pounds to one dollar.

Eighty per cent of dealings have been moved to this rate or a "commercial rate", fluctuating towards the market rate and currently over 1.90.

The next step, moving transactions still conducted at the commercial rate to the market rate, had been expected in early January — six months ahead of the IMF schedule — but has not yet been announced.

Higher prices have hurt pockets long padded by a subsidised economy. The government, sensitive to any hint of unrest, raised public service pay 20 per cent last year and is trying to target increases to the rich and the middle class.

"If you give a country a soft programme, then say never mind if it doesn't live up to the conditions, there is genuine fear among some governments for the whole debt programme" one said.

New exploration drive planned

ANCHORAGE, Jan 18, (UPI): For the first time since oil prices plunged more than two years ago, major new exploration and development is planned in Alaska, a group of six companies announced.

The companies unveiled plans during the weekend for America's last oil frontier, an indication that the industry is no longer in retreat. The plans are modest by past standards, but significant because they signal a new start for the industry in a state that produces 24 per cent of America's crude oil.

"There are glimmers, now, of better times to come," the chief executive officer of Standard Oil Co. of Cleveland, E. John P. Browne, said Saturday.

On target
He said the "theme for this meeting — turnaround — should be right on target," an opinion shared by other oil company officials.

Browne said Standard plan-

ned to spend \$350 million to launch development of the Nisukuk oil field a mile off the north coast of Alaska, and of the Eileen West End, the last undeveloped acreage at America's largest oil field, Prudhoe Bay.

Ben Odom, senior vice-president for Arco Alaska operations, said he was "a little nervous" about the future, but announced Arco will soon drill its first Alaska wildcat exploratory wells since 1985. He said Arco will double its 1987 spending to \$300 million this year developing Alaska oil fields.

Conoco's oil development on the Arctic coast at Milne Point field — shut down as unprofitable when oil prices plummeted — will start up again in a \$34-million drilling and expansion programme, said Tom Painter, division manager.

Tenneco and nine partners already have started a \$55 million search for oil from an oil drilling ship anchored in the

Beaufort Sea 6 miles (10 km) off northeast Alaska, said Dan Johnson, the Houston company's senior vice-president.

Search
Exxon announced plans to search for oil beneath 1.3 million acres (520,000 H) in the Yukon Flats area of interior Alaska owned by the Athabaskan Indians.

Su Gustafson, of the company's exploration department, said this represents the first large-scale search for oil in the area near the Yukon river. He said the company which signed a 15-year agreement with the Indians' Doyon Corp. would "spend whatever it takes" to do the job.

Chevron's Tom Cook said his company was devastated by the oil plunge of 1985, but oil exploration and development must proceed on extensive acreage the company already has obtained and on additional acreage Chevron hopes to win in upcoming offshore oil and gas lease sales in the Arctic.

Shevardnadze urges easing of technology export restrictions

BONN, Jan 18, (Reuters): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze opened talks in Bonn today by urging the West to ease trade restrictions on advanced technology exports to the East Bloc, diplomats sources said.

Shevardnadze and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher met for 90 minutes with their delegations, which then broke into working groups on security and disarmament, legal and humanitarian questions and bilateral issues.

Importance
"Both sides underlined the importance of overcoming the division of Europe," the West German Foreign Ministry said in a statement after the talks.

Diplomatic sources said Shevardnadze and Genscher had expressed satisfaction at progress to date in building

Soviet-West German relations and had stressed the need to deepen ties to create a safer "European home."

Sources close to the delegations said Shevardnadze had called for an easing of restrictions on East-West trade imposed by the Western trade body Cocom, the Coordinating Committee for Multinational Export Controls.

Appeal
The Soviet appeal comes at a time when West Germany, pushed by its business community, is seeking greater Cocom flexibility on exports of advanced technology to Eastern Europe.

Cocom was set up in 1950 to prevent sales to Communist countries of technology with possible military applications. It groups all Nato members except Iceland, and includes Japan.

Moscow is seeking an easing of Cocom restrictions on such items as advanced computers to push forward the economic reforms of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Foreign analysts said Bonn, while retaining security as its top priority, considered the time had come for Cocom to work out "a sensible middle path" in its list of restricted goods.

They said West German leaders viewed world political stability as linked to Soviet progress on domestic reform.

But diplomats said that while some West European countries agreed with Bonn that the Cocom list needed review, the United States wanted to retain tight restrictions and was expected to oppose moves to allow more high-tech exports to Moscow.

The Foreign Ministry statement said Genscher noted that the West German public supported Bonn's intention to boost links with Moscow.

Interests
"This cooperation is not directed against anyone," the statement said. "It is in the interests of all nations in Europe and the world."

Analysts said the statement implicitly acknowledged Western concern about a Bonn-Moscow rapprochement.

They said some Nato members feared closer ties between the Soviet Union and West Germany, the Western alliance's frontline state, could encourage moves toward German neutralism.

During their talks today, Genscher accepted an invitation from Shevardnadze to visit Moscow at an undetermined date, diplomats said.

They said the ministers had noted the importance of a summit between Gorbachev and Chancellor Helmut Kohl but had not discussed dates.

China plans return of private land to solve farm crisis

PEKING, Jan 18, (Reuters): China is considering the restoration of private land ownership — a step to solve a deepening farm crisis that has led to food shortages, rationing and near record grain imports.

The People's Daily on Sunday devoted half a page to a somber report on the crisis by Agriculture Minister He Kang.

"Farm output is growing too slowly and consumer demand too fast... prices of grain, pork, cotton and sugar are too low, making farmers reluctant to produce them and stimulating demand... and making shortages worse," the minister said.

He gave the standing committee of the National People's Congress, China's parliament, the facts and figures of the country's 1987 farm performance — grain and cotton up, but below target, pork and sugar down, most other crops up, but farmers unwilling to put their money in the land.

Incentives
"Some village cadres allocate land to peasants with whom they have good relations, so others do not get plots they had before. Good quality fertiliser is in short supply. These plot changes and fertiliser shortages are increasingly," it said.

In addition, there are no incentives to invest and no penalties if you do not, the paper added. Cai said that, for ideological reasons, private land ownership would have a different name.

Cai said that the current situation is as if the land belonged to nobody; not the peasant who cannot sell it, not the state which gets no taxes from it and not the collective because it is leased out to the farmer.

Another Cass economist said private land ownership was ideologically impossible for three reasons: because the party feared a division between rich and poor in the countryside, as

existed before 1949, that no-one would feed the poor, and that land prices were bound to soar because it was so scarce.

Another idea pushed since 1984 is consolidation of China's minuscule farm plots.

Cai said that only two per cent of arable land had been consolidated because peasants were unwilling to part with their plots even if they were not farming them for fear that they would be unable to get them back — and because there was no penalty for not farming them.

A long article last week in the Financial Times argued that the solution to the farm crisis was commercialisation of land, with tenants having the right to rent their plots directly to others for profit, which they cannot do now.

Shi Yousheng said plots were getting smaller and smaller, technology was too backward.

Poverty
"To change the poverty of our villages, we must use modern scientific techniques and mechanisation with land as a commodity," an idea very close to land ownership but sensitive enough so that the minister declined to reveal the identity of Shi, a pen-name.

For the first 30 years of Communist rule, farmers got very low prices for their goods to provide the funds to finance China's rapid industrialisation, just as they did in the Soviet Union.

"We had no colonies, like the capitalist countries when they industrialised," Cai said. "Where else could we find the capital we need except from the farms?"

EEC ministers discuss key policy initiative

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Jan 18, (AP): Agriculture ministers of the European Economic Community opened debate today on a proposal for paying farmers in take land out of production.

The proposal, which must be approved by the 12 member governments, is widely seen as a key to unlocking negotiations on a broader reform of EEC farm policy and an overhaul of its financial structure.

An EEC summit conference in Copenhagen last month failed to reach agreement on the financial overhaul, in part because of West Germany's insistence that it include a plan for taking some land out of production.

Aim
The main aim of the "set aside" programme is to stem the rise in surplus stocks of grain and other products, which are straining the EEC's farm budget.

The set-aside programme is generally welcomed by all EEC members, but there has been deep disagreement over how it would be implemented and financed.

The farm ministers were not expected to make a decision on the set-aside programme until Tuesday at the earliest. At the outset of today's meeting, West German Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle said an eventual decision was "important for Europe." He was chairman of the talks.

Payments
"We have to come to a conclusion," Kiechle said. "Don't think it will be easier later on."

Most member nations think farmers should have to set aside at least 20 per cent of their productive land for a minimum of five years to qualify for the payments, which would come partly from the EEC budget and partly from national budgets.

هذا هو الأمل



PORT EVERGLADES police keep an eye on the ship Boxer Captain Cook. The crew was kept on board for questioning by FBI and others in the death of the captain on Sunday. (Reuter wirephoto)



STANDING in the dock are six defendants accused of being involved in a series of unexplained robberies that resulted in 28 deaths. They were on trial in Mons, Belgium, yesterday. From left, they are: Michel Cocu, Michel Baudet, Adriano Vittorio, Jean-Claude Estievenart, Jose de Bruyn and Kaci Bouaroudj. (Reuter wirephoto)



A RELEASED Palestinian (left) welcomed by friends outside Gaza jail on Sunday. Mohamed Abdou Mahmoud, arrested for stone-throwing during the recent riots in the Gaza Strip, was freed after spending three weeks in jail. (Reuter wirephoto)



PRESIDENTIAL candidate Leslie Manigat gestures as he talks with reporters on Sunday after arriving at the Port au Prince townhall to vote. Many Haitians have accused the Army of manipulating the elections to favour Manigat in the eleven-man race. (Reuter wirephoto)



HAITIAN leader Lt Gen. Henri Namphy is seen in uniform in this file photo made earlier this month. Namphy, 53, is due to cede power on February 7, to a civilian president after two years as interim president. (Reuter wirephoto)



ANGLICAN church envoy Terry Waite is shown with his Druze guards on January 19, 1987, the day before Waite disappeared. (Reuter wirephoto)



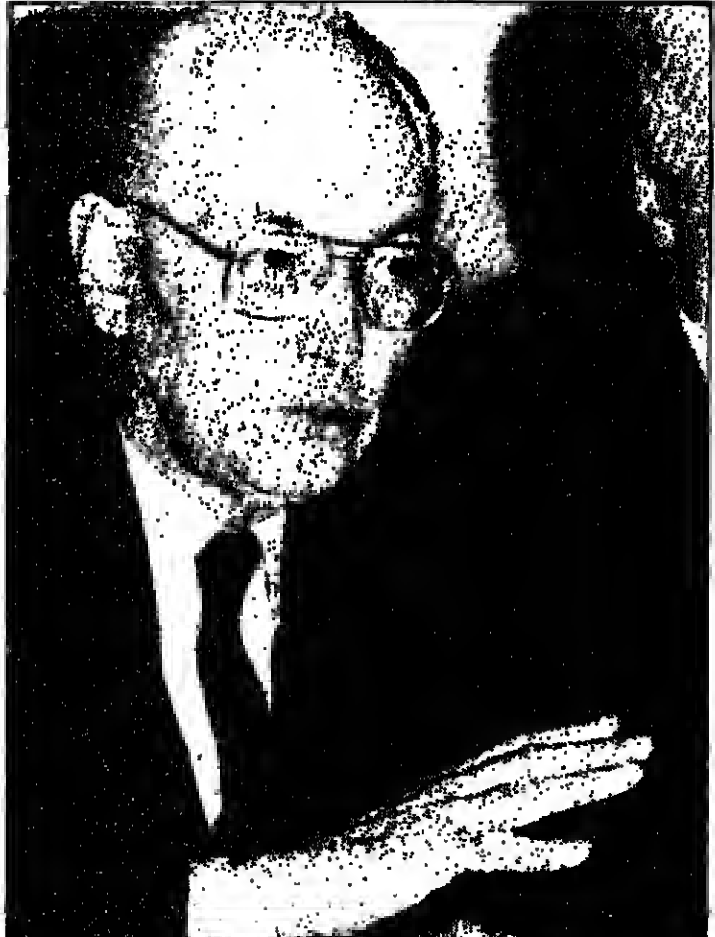
LEADING Soviet dissident Iosif Begun waves to reporters and friends as he arrives this morning at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport to board a plane to Bucharest. Far right is Begun's wife Inna and, centre, her 79-year-old mother Dvoira. (Reuter wirephoto)



TOWNSPEOPLE mill around at the entrance to the Fourth Infantry Brigade, where a rebel Air Force commando took charge yesterday, leading a military uprising against the Army high command. The commando (below left) was taken into custody after a group from the Air Force took control of the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Airport, the nation's major domestic field, in support of the military uprising by Army mutineer Aldo Rico. (Reuter wirephoto)



BRITAIN'S Prince Edward, Queen Elizabeth's youngest son (left), chats with composer Andrew Lloyd-Webber and his wife Sarah Brightman at Windsor Castle in this 1986 file photo. Buckingham Palace announced yesterday that the Prince is to become the first member of the royal family ever to pursue a career in theatre when he joins Lloyd-Webber's "Really Useful Theatre Company" as a production assistant next month. (Reuter wirephoto)



RENE LAMY, Governor of Belgium's largest company Societe Generale, announcing at a news conference today that he would fight a bid by Italian tycoon Carlo da Benedetti to take a dominant stake in a company regarded by Belgians as a national institution. (Reuter wirephoto)



HUNDREDS of candles are lit by Palestinians in protest against world hunger during a demonstration held Sunday night in the garden of Palais Royale in Paris. (Reuter wirephoto)



A HAITIAN soldier watches a line of voters waiting to vote on Sunday in presidential elections in Port au Prince. Security was heavy at polling stations as voter turnout was low in Sunday's voting. (Reuter wirephoto)

JUNIOR TIMES

Dear Junior Readers,

This is the time of year when many of you enjoy weekend picnics in the desert with your families. It is a welcome change to be able to forget about the city and school for a few hours and eat and play at a nice picnic spot away from buildings, highways and traffic.

Recently the Arab Times has carried many articles about the importance of preserving the natural beauty of Kuwait's desert by protecting plants and shrubs which grow naturally with the winter rains.

As you have your picnics and play with your family and friends be careful that you do not trample on delicate flowers and grass. Maybe you could also ask your father to drive around green areas so the car tires do not destroy this rare beauty.

Of course, cleaning up after you eat, is something you would automatically do. A large plastic bag is convenient for collecting rubbish and scraps and can easily be thrown away when you return to your home.

Enjoy your weekend picnics but be sure and do your part in preserving Kuwait's desert beauty.

Aunt Barbara

Firsts and lasts

The word 'school' originally meant 'leisure'. It came from 'scholē' which is Greek for 'leisure'.

The first satellite launched by the Americans at Cape Canaveral in 1957 exploded before it had got more than one metre (3 1/2 feet) above the ground.

Many of our words in the English language have their origins in the Latin of the Romans. Many of these words have political meanings, the most obvious of these being the word 'candidate'. This first came into the English language because Roman senators or politicians wore white togas as a mark of their rank. The Latin for white is 'candida' so candidates were 'the white ones'.

Search for magic

Can you find the words below in the diagram? They are formed in the diagram forwards, backwards, up, down, or diagonally, but they are always in a straight line and are never formed by skipping over any letters.

ARMS	DOVES	HELPER	RABBITS
AUDENCES	EYES	RICH	MOVIES
CARDS	FAKERS	NEW	RINGS
CHAINS	FAMOUS	OUT	ROPE
CREDIBLE	FOOLING	PASS	SCARF
DARE	GONG	QUICK	SHOT
DEFYING			TALK

R B W P D S C A R F H B W
S Q G O N G A Z I G G E C
P C V U I F R O P E N A F
V E Q T E V D E F Y I N G
S D Y R G H S Y A F L D D
O T R E D U R A K J O E F
U E X L S E T X E N O K C
S W E O P A S S R L F M H
T F S L C H S W S S M R A
I X E M B C W S V O P I I
B H T Q T I R B E U R N N
B G Y U B R D N C I T G S
A U D I E N C E S E V S Q
R K U C Z X Q M R D S O S
L H Z K J A T A O C H E M
J M V N A Y D P L I O H F
N I A F A M O U S K T G J

Openers

Listed below are the opening lines from a number of famous English and American literary works. How many authors and titles can you identify?

1. 'Call me Ishmael.'
2. 'Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold'
3. 'Come live with me and be my love.'
4. 'He was born with the gift of laughter and a sense that the world was mad.'
5. 'What dire offence from am'rous causes springs.'
6. 'In the year 1878 I took my degree of Doctor of Medicine of the University of London.'
7. 'One thing was certain, that the white kitten had had nothing to do with it — it was the black kitten's fault entirely.'
8. 'He did not wear his scarlet coat/For blood and wine are red.'
9. 'I was born in the year 1632, in the city of York, of a good family, though not of that county, my father being a foreigner of Bremen, who settled first at Hull.'
10. 'It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.'

Answers: 1. Hermann Melville, Moby Dick. 2. John Keats, 'On First Looking into Chapman's Homer'. 3. Christopher Marlowe, 'The Passionate Shepherd to His Love'. 4. Rafael Sabatini, Scaramouche. 5. Alexander Pope, The Rape of the Lock. 6. Arthur Conan Doyle, A Study in Scarlet. 7. Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking-Glass. 8. Oscar Wilde, The Ballad of Reading Gaol. 9. Daniel Defoe, Robinson Crusoe. 10. Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice.

DENNIS was a kindly dragon
And he found it lots of fun
Giving rides to little children,
On the Model Railway run.

But as weeks turned into months and
Months turned into several years,
Dennis Dragon grew dejected —
Sighing sighs and shedding tears.

"What is wrong with you?" the train man
Asked him one day, in despair.
You're upset, and sad



and gloomy
It's no fun now, at the fair."

"I don't know," replied poor Dennis,
Looking all cross-eyed and glum.
"You must need a rest," the man said.
"Get off home and see your Mum."

So the dreary dragon started
Out for home, still filled with gloom.

He was met with love

and kindness.
Put to bed in his old room.

But in spite of all Mum's efforts
He stayed weary, sad and blue.
Then his Mother told him firmly,
"I know what is wrong with you!"

You are now a grown-up dragon,
Handsome, strong and full of pride.
You need someone sweet and gentle —
As a girlfriend, then a bride."

Dennis Dragon blushed bright green — and
Then he blushed bright pink and red.
He was shy of lady dragons,
But he did what his Mum said.

Next day, in the local paper
There appeared in letters bold,
"WANTED — one bride for a dragon —
Must be kind, and good as gold."

Rushing up and down the pathway
Green and yellow, pink or blue
Dragon Ladies pushed and jostled
As they tried to jump the queue!

"I was first!" one dragon grumbled.
"No you WEREN'T!" there came a shout.

As they pushed and shoved and quarrelled,
Here and there a fight broke out.

Snappy dragons, tall ones, short ones,
Some were fat, and some too thin.
Biffing, banging, pushing, barging,
Some fell out, and some gave in.

All that day the battle raged as
Dennis watched, quite safe inside,
"But," he told his worried Mother,
"None of THEM will be my bride!"

Mother Dragon was determined
And told Dennis what to do
"Send your facts to the computer.
It will find the girl for you."

So, at the computer centre
Dennis turned up, eyes aglow;
Popped his card into the slot, then
Pushed the button labelled GO.

Bells and whistles, bleeps and buzzers,
Lights in yellow, green and red,



Dragons shot from the computer
Like a toaster popping bread!
Dennis looked at each new lady.

Viewed them all, but fancied none.
He went back home in disappointment;
Computer Dragons were no fun.

Dainty Daisy (next-door-neighbour),
Young and slim and looking great,
Turned to smile at Dennis, as he
Stopped beside his Mother's gate.

Dennis hadn't seen sweet Daisy

Since they were at Dragon School.
Now she really was a beauty;
Dennis almost lost his cool.

"What a lady!" thought our hero.
Shyly he held out his hand.
Daisy took it, and in no time
A summer wedding they had planned.

As they left the church together,
Dennis led the way with pride.
Who'd have thought his next-door-neighbour
Would turn out to be his bride.

Jumping coin

The illusion:

An empty matchbox is placed on top of someone's head and is balanced there as a coin is sealed inside an envelope. The envelope is placed on a second person's head who stands at least three feet away. A clap of the hands and the magic is done. The envelope is torn open and shown to be empty, and the missing coin is found inside the closed matchbox.

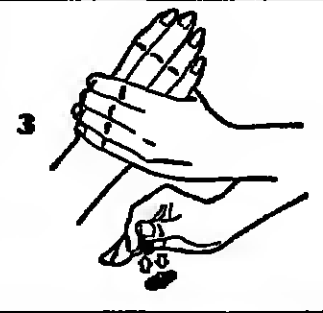
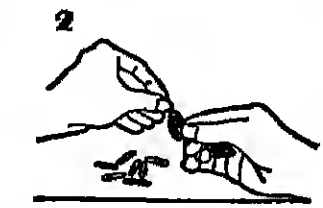
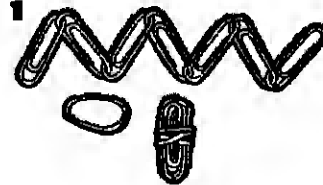
The preparation:

Push the drawer of a matchbox about two-thirds of the way out of its cover. Slide a penny into the opposite end of the cover and wedge it between the inner end of the drawer and the top of the cover (1). Prepare the envelope by slitting almost the entire length of one end with a sharp razor blade (2). Have a duplicate coin in your pocket and you're ready to do the trick.

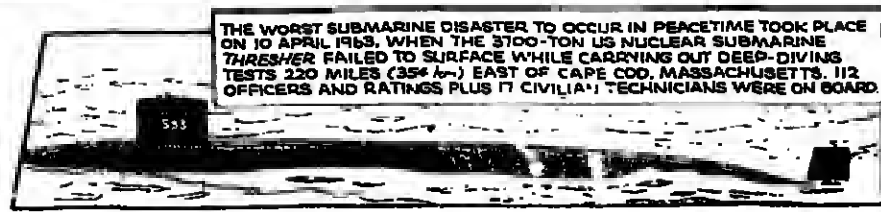
The trick:

Show the inside of the empty matchbox by holding it toward the audience and with the drawer rising above the cover. Thumb on the bottom, fingers on the top. Close the box by gently sliding the drawer down into the cover (3). Ask someone to imitate a magician's table and as you place the box on top of his or her head, squeeze the sides of the box to free the coin. Remove the penny from your pocket, show it, and drop it into the envelope, making sure the slit end is held slightly higher than the other. Now as you seal the envelope tilt it in the other direction so that the penny secretly slides into your waiting fingers (4). Gently put the envelope on a second person's head to also use their talents as a table.

Clap your hands to create the magic force. Remove the envelope from "Table No. 2," tear off the slit end, and let the person examine the envelope. Without going near "Table No. 1" have the person take the box from his or her head and open it. There is the missing coin. Well, if you call it the missing coin, they'll believe you!



Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



THE WORST SUBMARINE DISASTER TO OCCUR IN PEACETIME TOOK PLACE ON 10 APRIL 1963, WHEN THE 3700-TON US NUCLEAR SUBMARINE THRESHER FAILED TO SURFACE WHILE CARRYING OUT DEEP-DIVING TESTS 200 MILES (320 km) EAST OF CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS. 112 OFFICERS AND RATINGS PLUS 11 CIVILIAN TECHNICIANS WERE ON BOARD.

INSIDE the buried chamber, Annie found the idol exactly where she thought it would be. All of a sudden, she heard a noise at the top of the shaft. Horrified, she recognised the voice of the thief speaking to his accomplice. Annie had to think fast. She must protect the idol at all costs!

She grabbed it and shoved it into her big bag — she was surprised how light it felt. Then she pressed herself against the wall hoping to hide in the gloom. She kept perfectly still. She heard two voices talking in hoarse whispers and she could just make out two shadows creeping across the chamber. Then she heard someone scrambling frantically in the sand. They were looking for the idol! She knew she had to make a dash for it before the crooks discovered the idol was missing.

The curse of the lost idol

Too late! As Annie clambered up the first few rungs of the ladder, she felt a strong hand grasp her leg. She tried to grab it and push it away but she got a head instead — she felt hair, an ear and something sharp that scratched her hand. Then suddenly she was free. The thief must have lost his balance.

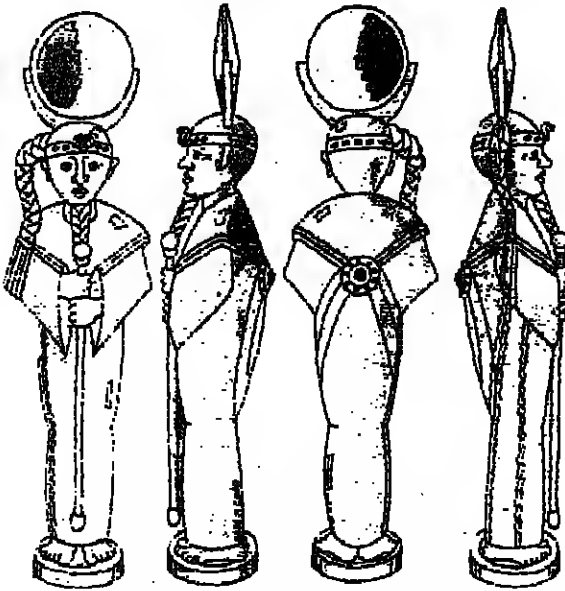
AS Annie made her way back to the boat, she began to feel frightened. She tried to pull herself together — but she knew she wasn't just being silly. It really was very scary scrambling across a strange desert all alone in the middle of the night carrying a priceless idol.

And what about the curse? Annie hoped that the powers of the ancient

gods would not mistake her for the thief and punish her. She started to run.

By the time she reached the gangplank, she was too

exhausted to worry about the guards. She only remembered them when she passed the policeman and his dog, both fast



There are four differences between the idol and the description in The Daily. It is much lighter than the real idol. Professor Pott and Eric notice how heavy it is but Annie is surprised by how light it is. The modern factory stamp shows it must be a fake. Jewels around the idol's head should be sapphires (blue) and emeralds (green). Cobra symbol should only have one eye. Six toes on wrong foot. Modern factory stamp Jewel in idol's back is not a diamond. (Diamonds are not red).



Answers:

asleep.
She made straight for her cabin and bolted the door. She knew she ought to take the idol straight to the Police Chief, but first she wanted to look at it herself. As she lifted it from her bag, something in the back of her mind worried her. What was it?

She turned it round slowly, looking at it from every angle — front, back and from both sides. The more she started at it, the more it bothered her. In a flash she realised what was wrong.

What is wrong with the idol?
What does this mean?

Remarkable aerospace triumph, commercial flop

Early exit for mighty Concorde

AIR FRANCE, the only airline besides British Airways that owns the supersonic aircraft Concorde, has secured itself a place in the history of aviation through the highly prized possession. The Concorde can do what no other plane can do — fly across the Atlantic without refuelling and carry 11 tons of freight.

Early next century the world will watch with nostalgia when the two European carriers phase out their supersonic aircraft at the end of their almost 30-year-long life span. The world will fall back to subsonic air transport as there is not even the remotest chance that another Concorde or another supersonic commercial aircraft will have come into being by then.

Some airlines are already kicking themselves for not having acquired the Concorde at the time the manufacturers, Aerospatiale from France and the British Aircraft Corporation, were eagerly awaiting orders. Had they done so they could have prevented the early demise of the world's most efficient and beautiful aircraft.

There are 16 Concorde aircraft in the world split equally between Britain and France. Two of the 16 are prototypes. No more Concorde will ever be produced according to one of Air France's most promising engineers, Bernard Combelles, who heads the maintenance division for Airbus and Concorde aircraft. Combelles took a tour of the airline's maintenance department. "All the tools (for manufacturing the Concorde) have been scrapped," he said with finality.

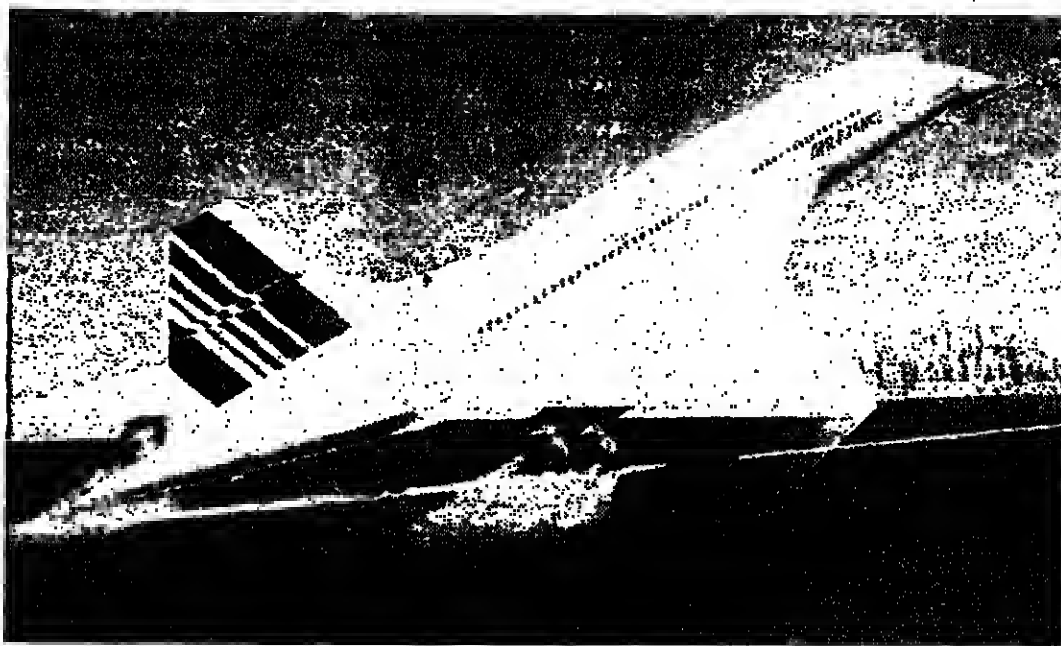
This is bad news for some airlines but for Air France it spells exclusivity.

To many other carriers including Iran Air, China's national airline and some US carriers who have repeatedly approached Air France with offers to buy some of their Concorde, the aircraft is becoming increasingly appealing. British Airways is only too aware of that. Not only are they unwilling to sell their supersonic aircraft but they have also made a bid for Air France's Concorde. But for Air France the Concorde, which can cruise at 2,200 km per hour, is priceless. "It gave us tremendous publicity and it boosted our image as a leader in technology," says Combelles.

What has recently particularly endeared the Concorde to the airline is that it has lost the aircraft has become profitable. ... if operating cost alone is taken into account the aircraft first made money in 1982. This year for the first time after 11 years since it was introduced, the Concorde was profitable including the cost of depreciation. The airline is confident that, provided fuel prices do not soar, the days when the Concorde was a financial burden, are firmly in the past.

The Concorde's life will extend into the 21st century but the two airlines will have to phase out the aircraft between the years of 2003 and 2005. By

By early 2000, one of the world's most efficient and graceful aircraft, the Concorde will be scrapped by its manufacturers, Aerospatiale and the British Aircraft Corporation. Is there an alternative or will air-travellers have to settle for subsonic air transport? Jadranka Porter, who recently visited the Air France Concorde maintenance division, discusses the problems surrounding the emergence of a new supersonic plane.



An Air France Concorde takes off. The plane can cruise at 2,200 km per hour.

then, it is hoped, the researchers will have been close to finalising designs for a new superior-to-Concorde supersonic aircraft for commercial use in the second or third decade of the 21st century.

Combelles is certain that there will be a time gap of more than a decade when the Concorde will be a museum exhibit and a new supersonic commercial airliner will exist on paper only. In the meantime the world's globetrotters will have to settle for subsonic air transport which consumes one quarter of the fuel the Concorde uses, but takes twice as long to cross the Atlantic.

Problems

The problems surrounding the emergence of a new supersonic aircraft are similar to those that preceded the launching of the Concorde. On the one hand there are technical challenges. The 21st century travel dictates a need for an aircraft that will outdo the mastery of the Concorde. The Concorde can carry 100 passengers but the future supersonic commercial airliner, in order to be commercially viable, will have to accommodate at least 200 passengers. Crossing the Atlantic won't be enough either. The new aircraft's range will have to be at least 9,000 km, 2,500 km more than the Concorde's in order to cross the Pacific, a definite requirement of the 21st century air travel. It may have to be built to fly at an altitude of 100,000 feet if it is to sidestep the problems associated with the sonic boom which caused the Concorde, capable of flying no higher than 60,000 feet, to be banned from flying over some countries.

The greatest of challenges will be to invent an engine to power an aircraft which will make less noise, consume less

fuel but fly further and higher than the Concorde. These are no small challenges for the best of brains in aircraft industry.

Answers

But even if all the answers are found by engineers the biggest hurdle will be to sell a sufficient number of aircraft to justify their production. The same problem has plagued the manufacturing of the Concorde. No matter what money Air France put down for its Concorde it paid nowhere near what it cost to produce the plane says Combelles.

With BA and Air France being the only buyers of the Concorde, a remarkable triumph of the aircraft industry, was condemned to a comparatively early exit from the commercial air travel scene. It is a pity that the next supersonic in line will not meet with the same fate, Combelles is

sceptical that it will appear at all within the next five decades. He reckons that to make the price of this future supersonic anywhere near reasonable for the airlines, the manufacturers will have to make between 500 and 1,000 such aircraft. But the market cannot accommodate that number of planes, he says.

"The world is doomed to be without a supersonic commercial airliner for more than a decade following 2005," he speculates.

This is why Air France is now relishing the years of Concorde ownership much to the envy of some airlines who lacked either money or foresight or both, to get the supersonic plane when it could have been got. Basking in the knowledge that they have done the right thing, even if under certain amount of pressure, Air France has decades ahead of it to savour the sweet, sweet taste of success.



A British Airways Concorde makes a smooth landing. There are 16 Concorde in operation split equally between British Airways and Air France.

Up, up and away on the US Navy's F-18 Hornet

When flight becomes intelligence

By Christopher Swan

MIDDLETOWN, Pa. — The first thing I saw was the nose. Jutting out from behind a brick building. Maybe two football fields away. Blue, sleek, pointed. Then, we came around in our car on the runway, and I saw the whole plane. Like some kind of galvanised mosquito. All power and precision and swept-back beauty.

Something about your first look at a light-attack aircraft like the F-18 Hornet makes you want to get inside. Know the soul of a swift machine. And, this breezy afternoon, I was to make close acquaintance with the state-of-the-art Navy jet, compliments of the Blue Angels, the Navy's precision-flying squadron that recently started flying seven of the bullet-fast, ballet-dancer-maneuverable planes.

An untroubled sun glinted off the hard blue surface of the plane. The canopy was open at a 35-degree angle, like an alligator's mouth. I sat inside. Omar was strapping me into the second seat of the plane.

"You see everything in yellow and black here?" Omar asked as he cinched straps around my ankles, my thighs, my groin, my stomach, my chest. "You don't want to touch any of it. If anything happens, he will save you."

"He" is Lt. Cliff Skelton, pilot for the Blues' seventh plane, which is modified with a second seat to accommodate curious passengers. The six other planes fly the razor's-edge formation patterns that streak through air shows around the country. Lieutenant Skelton shows media people and others what it is like to sit on top of 32,000 pounds of thrust while barrel-rolling or looping up at 50 miles an hour, pulling as much as 5 1/2 G's — or 5 1/2 times the force of gravity.

"When you start graying out and losing your vision," Omar advises, shoving a helmet down on my head, "just tighten up your stomach and leg muscles."

Blowing

The sounds of jets and props were blowing in frequent gusts back and forth across the tarmac, as Skelton approached the plane. He carries his body-by-Navy physique lightly and well. When he talks, he is quiet and respectful — one of those guys who seem to keep a serene corner of the sky in their blue eyes. His name is written in gold letters on the plane.

"I'm planning to start with a high performance climb up to 8,000 feet on takeoff," Skelton said, once he had strapped his helmet on. "That OK?"

Our voices were carried by intercom into each other's helmets. The canopy was down now, and you could hear the chatter of the tower above the dull, woodchopping roar of our own jets. The high-tech screens in front of me winked greenly; a computerised female voice called off the various stages of flight preparation.

"Flight control. Flight control," it kept repeating, making a noise like the sound you get when you dial an out-of-order telephone number. Something was wrong. I could hear Skelton muttering to himself. "I don't know if we're going to fly today," he said at one point. And we spent 15 tension-filled minutes while he monkeyed with the controls. Finally, though, he taxied out to the runway. The plane danced impatiently on the tarmac. I felt the tug of the engine yanking us into position for takeoff.

"Ready to fly?" Well, how ready do we mean here? My ears were pinned back. My eyes wide open. My heart pounding. I felt the urgency of thrust behind me. Then, rush, pull, earth-lost, force, speed, move up, FLY!!! The little light thing was suddenly up, and Skelton was in a high-performance climb and everything blurred into new intensity. Four G's pulled me back into my seat, like a turtle slammed against its shell. And everything in this sweeping blur — Earth, mind, body, sky — was moving straight up.

We leveled off at 8,000 feet. We were the fastest, lightest thing in the air, soaring above the green mosaic of farmland and roads. The Susquehanna river looked hard and brown below us. The cooling towers of Three Mills Island stood off in the near distance. My body was recovering from the depth-charge sensation of pulling all those G's. My mind raced along with the speed of the plane.

"How you doing back there, Chris?" Skelton asked. Fine, said the fly to the spider.

"Good. Let's climb up to 10,000 feet, where we can go



Writer Christopher Swan peers into the sky as he's strapped into an F-18 Hornet jet.

faster. Then, I'll show you a few more manoeuvres."

Blue Angels pilots routinely perform manoeuvres like the ones I was about to experience, only at much lower altitudes and in tighter configurations. They do so while flying 36 inches apart, sometimes coming straight at each other, making almost microscopic adjustments with their sticks. When you see them execute razor-sharp manoeuvres at speeds of up to 600 miles an hour, as I did during the Harrisburg International Air Show the following afternoon, you get no sense of the sheer brute force that engage them while they fly.

Upside down in my harness, I spoke to my stomach small reassurances about the quiet life we would retire to — a life of Nash Ramblers and Cream of Wheat — to replace the breakfast I lost somewhere between aileron rolls No. 3 and 4.

We were interrupted by Skelton.

"How did you like 4 G's?"

Just dandy.

"Would you like to try 5 1/2 G's? I want to show you a Half Cuban Eight. I'll be accelerating

Still, it's no stroll in the park. When they come screaming out of the sky in perfect configuration, like one tight fist, then burst apart in a smoke-trailing fleur-de-lis pattern, all they leave behind is a long gasp of amazement. The sun catches the six planes at once and they become lights dancing against the clouds. But up there, in the cockpit, it's all counting, terse signals, and intense flying.

That's what this demonstration flight was all about: to show me a little bit of what it means to do this thing the Blues do all the time. "I'm going to do a few aileron rolls, first," Skelton says.

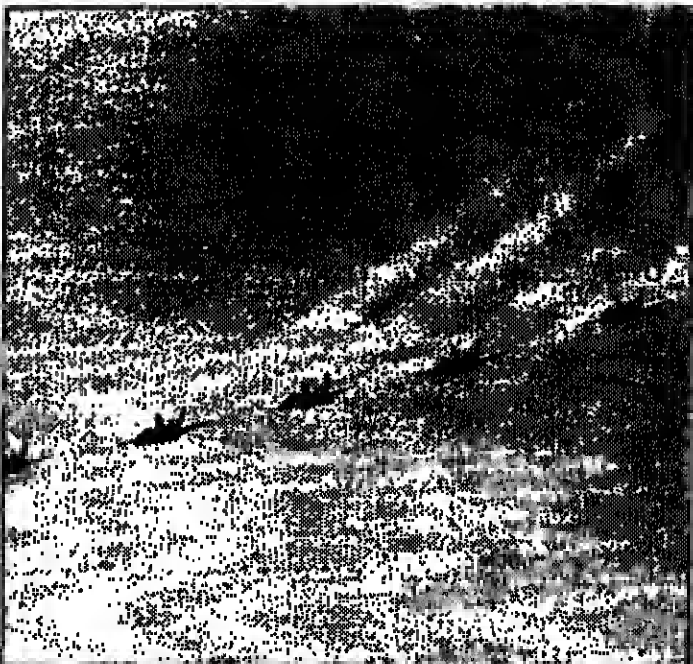
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The Blue Angels zoom into formation.

ing from 300 to 550 miles an hour. Want to do that?

Yes, actually, I would. 5 1/2. Then 6. Then 12. Tomorrow the world. I felt up to it. I felt exhilarated. I felt sure I could handle it.

I passed out. Sad but true. The plane swept abruptly upward. He began to pour on the torque. I felt more and more of that undefinable pull from every direction that G-force creates. And suddenly I was nowhere, no direction home, no destination. Nobody. For 30 seconds I was out, until I heard a voice from the base of my skull saying, "Are you with me, Chris?" I certainly hope so.

He leveled off for a while, so I could collect myself. Cold sweat dripped down the front of my visor. I felt completely limp and wrung out. It was a brutal, punishing experience. "Here, you take the plane," he said.

Gently, I took the stick and ever so gingerly cantered the aircraft to the right, heading us upriver. Then, I pulled back and felt a swift upkick in our attitude. Leveling out, I flew for a while, following the brown line of the river into the green country and blue sky, letting the Earth slip away beneath me. Looking out to my left and watching the horizon, I could see how much terrain you gobble up in short order flying this fast.

Response

Too, I could feel the quick responses of this aircraft and get some sense of what the Blues had told me about their planes, and why they like to stay with one they get to know. "It's just like your own car," Skelton says. "Turn rate, pitch rate. You get to know it real well. Like a race car driver — only this is three — dimensional."

"You get real comfortable with the airplane," Lt. Wayne Molnar pointed out the next day. "We just swapped planes, and there was a tremendous difference. Like driving a Jaguar three times a day every day for six months, and then changing to an Oldsmobile. An eighth-of-an-inch difference in the seat changes your sight pitch just enough to make a difference."

The plane's idiosyncracies are "felt" that closely because these pilots are making stick corrections at tolerances almost imperceptibly slight. For three months, they fly two times a day six days a week to learn Blues' formations and manoeuvres.

"The Boss," Commander Rud, ducks his head under a wing to demonstrate just how close 26 inches is when these pilots perform the kinds of manoeuvres Skelton was putting me through.

1988. The Christian Science Monitor.

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"If the unemployment figures dropped down to one, it'd be him!"

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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NISSAN Patrol 1986 Safari Jeep, AC, long wheel, 4 wheel drive, black, 40,000 kms. Diplomat selling. In excellent condition. KD 3600, cash. Tele. Mr. Javaid, 2546022, 2546213, 8 am-2 pm. (AT3-40579-3)

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VOLKSWAGEN, 1980 model, automatic, green, 4 doors, AC, in good condition. Tele. 5633087, 3-4.30 pm. (AT2-40561-3)

CHRYSLER New Yorker 1981, black, fully automatic with AC, radio and cassette. In excellent condition. KD 600. Tele. Steve, 3260177 ext 5481, off. 3942302, res. (AT3-40575-3)

DODGE Ramcharger, 1978 model, 4 wheel drive, manual, with new tyres, tested upto October 88. KD 650, ono. Tele. 5743390. (AT3-40575-3)

NISSAN Patrol, 1981 model, 80,000 kms, engine and gear box, overhauled in Feb, registered upto Oct 88. All extras in excellent condition. KD1200. Tele. Klaus, 5332356, 3904177. (AT3-40583-3)

PORSCHE 928, 79 model, red, maintained by Behbehani, in very good condition. Tele. Josef, 3904177, 5332356, after 2 pm. (AT3-40582-3)

2 PORSCHE 930 turbos, '86 model, sport, one red and one dark grey, metallic, guaranteed upto December, 1988. Both are in excellent condition. Tele. 9016677, 2408756. (AT6-40276-6)

PUMA, convertible '82, designed by Porsche 38,000 kms. Owner leaving Kuwait. In good condition. KD1000 ono. Tele. Sukh 2452880, 5337730 after 5 pm. (AT4-40589-3)

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TOYOTA Corolla GT 1984, hatchback, 80,000 kms, manual, in excellent condition. KD1150. Tele. 5339620, after 3 pm. (AT4-40589-3)

OLDSMOBILE Delta 88, 1981 model, good runner, Buick Le Sabre 1977, reliable. KD495, 275 respectively. Tele. Mr. Ashlan, 4878197, after 1 pm. (AT4-40598-3)

TOYOTA Corolla 1.6, 84 model, in excellent condition, KD900, negotiable. Tele. Tariq Mahmood, 5651322. (AT4-40609-3)

TOYOTA Corolla XL, 1987 model, metallic silver, automatic, 23,000 kms, insured upto April 1990, in excellent condition. KD2000, ono. Tele. Mr. Mujahid, 5745172, 9 am-4 pm. (AT4-40599-3)

Miscellaneous

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SPORTS

Gulf Bank and Falcon outlast opponents

GULF BANK and Falcon beat Al Mulla and Siddique cricket respectively in the Al Mulla Mitsubishi Cup matches at the Oval in Almadia on Friday.

To the morning, Falcon stole the honours by crushing Siddique by 50 runs. The foundation for Falcon's victory was laid by their openers, Sher Afzal (39) and Zahid (53), who put on 96 for the first wicket. Both the batsmen hit two sixes each and were severe on anything short or over-pitched.

Three quick wickets by the Siddique bowlers put Falcon under some pressure but the arrival of Amin again changed the complexion of the game. Amin hit four sixes and three fours as he raced to 56.

Unbeaten

By the end of the 28 allotted overs, Falcon had put on 197 runs for the loss of eight wickets. For Siddique, the bowling honours were shared by Zafar with three wickets and Arif who got two. Amjad and Tariq got one wicket each.

In reply Siddique were all out for 147. Siddique's highest scorer was Amjad with 57. Shahid hit an unbeaten 25 while Zafar got 18 and Mukesh 16.

Amio was the main wicket taker with three for 36 to six overs. Zahid supported him well by taking two for 31.

In the afternoon match, Gulf Bank just managed to overcome Al Mulla.

Battling first, Al Mulla made a modest total of 170 all out in 29 overs. The main contributors were Khalid (62), Nader (31) and Asghar (32).

For Gulf Bank wickets were shared by Manjre (3), Remy (2) with Alex, Ejaz, Perwaiz and Peter all taking a wicket each.

Stage

Gulf Bank lost Alex early, bowled by Asghar for 4. Elias left without scoring, another Asghar victim. It was left to Perwaiz and Remy to stage a fightback and both playing with responsibility brought respectability to the total. Perwaiz was dismissed for 54.

Remy played a captain's knock, being unbeaten on 83 with 9 boundaries. Four middle-order batsmen dismissed to his defence failed to add anything.

Eventually Remy managed to take his side to victory as Gulf Bank ended in making 173 for 8 in 29 overs.

Waldner wins for Europe

CLEVELAND, England, Jan 18, (AP): Jan Ove Waldner of Sweden gave European table tennis a big confidence boost yesterday by winning the men's singles title in the Europe versus Asia classic.

Waldner, the world No. 2, followed his first-round victory over Britain's Nicky Masoo by disposing of three Asian challengers.

In the final, there was not much between Waldner and South Korea's Yoo Nam Kyu for two games but then the Swede stepped up a gear to win 21-18 21-19.

In the semifinal, Kyu, ranked only 22 in the world, had upset world No. 4 Teng Yi of China 22-20, 21-11.

At last year's world championships, China won six of the seven titles at stake but neither of its singles champions made much of an impact at this two-day event, the most prestigious table tennis tournament to be held in Britain for 10 years, featuring the top men and top six women players in the world.

Stars shine again in rebirth of the individual

AFTER two decades of pragmatism and team-work, European soccer rejoiced to the skills of match-winning individualism at the weekend with brilliant goals from Diego Maradona, Ruud Gullit, Emilio Butragueno and Peter Beardsley.

Argentina World Cup-winning captain Maradona, whose supreme talent inspired Napoli to the Italian double last season, drove in a 15-metre drive three minutes from time to clinch Napoli's 1-0 win at Sampdoria on Sunday.

Thrashed

His strike kept Napoli three points clear of AC Milan at the top and pushed Sampdoria back to fourth, hot Milan, for whom Dutchman Gullit scored twice, thrashed Como 5-0 to take a firm hold on second place.

Maradona was in an effusive mood afterwards. "This Napoli has now proved it can win anywhere," he said, momentarily forgetting his team's 4-0 defeat at Milan at the start of the year.

"After that defeat they asked whether we were tired. Some even said we were dead. This goal, this win, is our answer to

MINTER DUMPS SHRIVER OUT OF AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Lendl still favourite but Cash closing fast

MELBOURNE, Jan 18, (Reuters): Wimbledon champion Pat Cash is challenging hard for Ivan Lendl's position as favourite at the Australian Open after a significant improvement in his hardcourt skills over the past three months.

Since last October's straight-set defeat by Lendl in the Sydney Indoor final, Cash has been working on his backcourt play and rallying prowess.

During that final Cash was still charging the net at every opportunity, a recipe for success which worked against the world number one on grass at Wimbledon but failed miserably on slower surfaces.



Lendl (left) and Cash: heading for a showdown in the Australian Open

Appears

On the new rebound ace surface here, Cash has been content to hide his time at the back of the court, rallying until a clear opening appears and then using his speed and volleying power to kill.

As both Lendl and Cash, due to meet in the semifinals, prepare for tomorrow's quarterfinals, there are many who believe the Melbourne-born 22-year-old has what it takes to stop Lendl winning the first leg of the Grand Slam, his stated goal this year.

Cash's fourth-round victim, Sweden's Jonas B. Svensson, is one of the believers.

"It's the best I've ever seen him play. Last year he missed a lot on his forehand but now he's so much stronger and better on the

baseline.

"He's so fast, he's the fastest in the world when he comes into the net. I think he can really do some damage to Lendl," said Svensson.

The semifinal with Lendl, consistently the hardest hitter of a tennis ball in the world, looms as a rare treat in championships which have hit few heights in their first eight days.

The lack of depth in the men's field, because of injuries and dis-

inclination to travel, has led to few thrillers involving the big names.

A quick glance through the quarterfinal line-up demonstrates the organisers' problems.

Lendl, like Mats Wilander and Cash yet to drop a set, meets 153rd-ranked American Todd Witsken. Cash plays 62nd-ranked Michiel Schapers of the Netherlands and defending champion Stefan Edberg takes on unseeded Andrei Chesnokov



of the Soviet Union, a 6-1 6-4 6-2 winner over Carl-Uwe Steeb of West Germany.

Edberg is the man most in danger of elimination after failing to reach anything like his full potential here after injury and a long lay-off.

"I'm out at the top of my game but I'm playing well enough to win and that's what counts. However, I played a lot better last year," Edberg said after today's 6-3 6-3 6-4 defeat of Aus-

tralian Jasoo Stolteberg.

Edberg's normally lethal serve is probably his greatest worry. He faced break points in his first three service games and served only five aces in the whole match.

The winner of the Edberg-Chesnokov match will almost certainly go forward to a semifinal against Wilander who clinched his quarterfinal place by beating Christian Saceanu of West Germany 6-2 6-4 6-3.

There seems only one possible

winner of the women's title, Steffi Graf. Awesome is an over-worked word in sport but it is the only one to describe Graf's combination of power, speed and unrelenting aggression.

Her second-round 6-0 6-1 obliteration of Australian Janine Thompson remains the match of the tournament, one-sided as it was.

Graf won the first eight games of her fourth round match against Sweden's Catarina Lindqvist today before easing off to win 6-0 7-5.

"Everything went so fast, she did not miss anything. She overpowered me and she gets round so fast to her forehand that you don't have time to think," Lindqvist said later.

Only memories of past Grand Slam defeats at the hands of Martina Navratilova appear capable of preventing the West German 18-year-old claiming her second major title.

Graf's next opponent is Hana Mandlikova, the holder and fifth seed who beat American Lori McNeil 6-2 6-4.

The other quarterfinal pairings are unseeded Australian Anne Miotter, who upset American fourth-seed Pam Shriver 6-3 6-4, against West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, Chris Evert against Claudia Porwick of West Germany and Czechoslovak Helena Sukova against Navratilova.

W. Australia defeat Queensland

SYDNEY, Jan 18, (Reuters): James Brayshaw, playing his first game for Western Australia, made a match-winning 60 not out against Sheffield Shield leaders Queensland in Perth today.

Brayshaw, 20, the middle of three sons of Western Australia's former all-rounder Ian Brayshaw, batted for four hours on a difficult pitch to steer his side to a three-wicket victory. They now trail Queensland by just four points.

On a difficult pitch, Brayshaw, batting at number three, showed great skill and application against an attack that contained Test bowlers Ian Botham and Carl Rackemann.

Botham was among the first to shake Brayshaw's hand when Western Australia reached 193 for seven to secure victory with 9.4 overs to spare.

Despite

Earlier Queensland, 214 for eight overnight, were 238 all out 18 minutes after the start of play.

Queensland and Western Australia each have three matches to play — one at home and two away — before the playoff for the title.

Despite a magnificent 166 by Mick Taylor and the comeback of Dennis Lillee, Tasmania lost to South Australia by an innings and 70 runs in Devonport.

Tasmania, 352 behind on first innings, were all out for 282, Taylor falling last of all having batted for 276 minutes and struck 19 fours.

Taylor's wicket gave 17-year-old fast bowler Shane George figures of three for 71 from 22.1 overs and an impressive match analysis of nine for 122.

Lillee took four for 99 in 45 overs when he bowled at the start of the match.

Standings

Sheffield Shield cricket standings after today's matches (tablets under — played, won, drawn, lost, points):

Queensland	7	5	1	30
W. Australia	4	2	1	26
N.S. Wales	6	2	1	12
Victoria	6	1	4	10
S. Australia	5	1	3	8
Tasmania	5	0	4	0

LOCAL CRICKET

Old Boys rout Golden Star

OLD BOYS Cricket Club thrashed Golden Star Cricket Club by eight wickets in a friendly match at the Silver Tower ground on Friday.

Golden Star, the toss and opted to bat but their decision seemed to backfire as Ansar was run out without any score on the board. Abdul Wahed removed Satu and Nazir with the total only 19. Ismail was caught by Gaffar off Adnan and Riaz Miao and Iftikhar struck twice to dismiss Goldeo Star for only 62 runs.

In reply, Old Boys went past the victory target in only 11 overs. Adnan Shah scored 27 while Idrees and Ismail remained unbeaten on 13 each.

The Old Boys, whose average age is 40 years, were helped by excellent fielding by all the players. As the bowlers struck to their task, the fielders supported them well.

Divided front threatens English appeal

LONDON, Jan 18, (Reuters): English soccer's appeal on Wednesday for the lifting of the European club has imposed after the 1985 Heysel stadium tragedy may be undermined by discord within its own ranks.

Leading representatives of the English Football League believe the English clubs have controlled hooliganism sufficiently to deserve a return to the lucrative club competitions without waiting until after June's European championship finals in West Germany.

But Sports Minister Colin Moynihan and representatives of the English Football Association (FA) hold more cautious views and feel the clubs are not ready for an immediate return.

English clubs were banned from Europe indefinitely follow-

ing the Heysel stadium tragedy when 39 lives were lost after rioting before the 1985 European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus.

Sports Minister Colin Moynihan on Saturday said he did not think English clubs had eradicated hooliganism and added that he did not think they were yet ready to return to Europe.

Efforts

He said: "We have to face up to the fact that there are still problems. We must step up our efforts to eradicate hooliganism."

The final decision must be with UEFA, but I do not believe they can end the ban until after the European Championship.

His comments oppose the views of League president Philip Carter who will travel to Monaco

to meet officials of the European Football Union (UEFA) on Wednesday with the chairman of the Football Association (FA) Bert Millichip.

Carter believes England's clubs are ready to return. He said: "We have got a situation where we are presenting a solid case in terms of the action taken over the last 18 months to two years."

"I think our crowd control is as good as anywhere and as a result of the improvements on the domestic scene we have a very strong case."

"I would not anticipate that a trouble-free European championship would be a criterion, but rather an added bonus."

Millichip, who will present the case for the readmission of English clubs, said: "Common sense

dictates that how we behave between now and next August will be vital.

"If our fans misbehave at the European Championship finals to West Germany, it is bound to react against us and any major disturbances between now and then will put us at risk."

Moyonihan said he felt the "appalling" behaviour of fans at an FA Cup tie between Arsenal and Millwall on January 9 would have a detrimental effect on the English clubs' hopes of returning.

There was fighting before and during the London derby game, which started 10 minutes late.

UEFA is bound to have noticed it. I am keen to see English clubs back in Europe but not unless we get our house in order," he said.

Karpov lashes out at Kasparov

MOSCOW, Jan 18, (UPI): Defeat chess challenger Anatoly Karpov said yesterday his vanquisher Garry Kasparov used more devious psychological tactics in their title match last month than expatriate Soviet chessmaster Viktor Korchnoi.

Karpov, fresh from his second unsuccessful attempt to regain his chess title from Kasparov in December in Seville, renewed his verbal feud with the champion in the Sovetskaya Russia newspaper.

"I have to state with bitterness that each time with the exception

of the first match, the beginning of the contest was accompanied by his attacks on me in the press which had nothing to do with chess and are untrue," Karpov said.

Karpov, who has been equated with the conservative forces to the Soviet Union against the glasnost-leading, Baku-based Kasparov, is no stranger to controversy.

Defended

He gained the title when chess wonder Bobby Fischer defaulted in 1974 and then defended his crown twice against Soviet expatriate Korchnoi in 1978 and

1981.

In their 1981 match in Baggio in the Philippines, Karpov charged that Korchnoi brought mystics along to confuse him.

"I should say that I also came in for psychological attacks during the 1978 and 1981 matches, but my current opponents clearly outdid the previous," Karpov said.

He said that Kasparov published his book, "Two Matches," just before the Seville championship series.

"It does the champion too credit that he chooses such a disrespectful tone, calling many famous people in chess dark intriguers and the witches of Shakespeare's Macbeth," Karpov said.

Hugging fine in Paris

LONDON, Jan 18, (Reuters): Hugging is fine in France but contact to Britain and Ireland will not start until after the opening whistle to Rugby Union's Five Nations competition.

The Five Nations committee wanted to ban the tradition of players gathering in a circle and embracing while the national anthems are played but after French resistance it was ruled out yesterday that rugby players can carry on hugging — in Paris.

"The habit has become universal in recent seasons, but we felt it was an inappropriate way to behave during the anthems," said Bob Weighill, secretary of the Five Nations Committee.

"But we were unable to convince the French federation, who say that their crowd expected their players to gather in a circle and their players wanted to do so."

"So, as they run matches in Paris, players can hug there, but in Britain and Ireland there will be a formal hugging."

The annual Five Nations competition, which began on Saturday, is cohosted by France, England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Johnson takes 60m race

VANCOUVER, Jan 18, (Reuters): Ben Johnson travelled 3,200 km to score his second Canadian sprint victory in as many nights as he won the 60-metre race at an indoor meeting yesterday.

Johanson, who ran a world indoor best of 5.20 seconds over 50 yards in Hamilton, Ontario, came within 13/100ths of a second of another record by clocking 6.54 seconds for 60-metres.

The Canadian set the world

record of 6.41 seconds last March at the World Indoor Championships in Indianapolis.

Ruoner-up in the race was American Thomas Jefferson in 6.78 seconds. His compatriot Rick Noji followed in 6.84.

A false start may have slowed Johnson.

"I'm very pleased with my time after coming from a race the night before and flying here. Everybody expects me to run fast but I just do my best," said Johnson, who also holds world records for 50 and 100 metres.

Turkish soccer

ANKARA, Jan 18, (Reuters): Turkish soccer authorities will meet this week to discuss action against a team which defied the game's world ruling body to play in the self-proclaimed Turkish republic of northern Cyprus.

Hahim Corball, chairman of the National Soccer Federation, said today they had to enforce decisions of the International Football Federation (Fifa).

Punjab triumph twice

PUNJAB Cricket Club (Farwaniya) scored two victories in the Sahab League tournament on Friday.

In the first match on Friday morning, Punjab beat New Khaitan Cricket Club by 39 runs and in the afternoon they crushed Burhani Cricket Club by 63 runs.

In the first match, Punjab CC won the toss at the Safeway Ground and decided to bat. Punjab were given a good start by their openers who put on 50 runs for the first wicket.

Anwar Minhas hammered the New Khaitan bowlers and went on to score 32. Anwar Minhas got some good support from Aowar Khan who hit 20. Punjab put on 144 runs in the 25 allotted overs.

Again

In reply, New Khaitan were all out for 105 runs in the 25 allotted overs. For Punjab Tahir took 2 wickets while Shafarfat, Javed and Anwar Khan got one each.

In the second match against Burhani, Punjab again won the toss and opted to bat. Their openers again gave them a good start and put on 40 runs for the first wicket.



Anwar: unbeaten 47

For Punjab, Anwar Khan was in excellent form and remained unbeaten on 47 with four fours and a six as Punjab reached 136. Anwar Minhas contributed 34 with five fours and Amer Aslam 24.

In reply, Burhani had no answer to the accurate Punjab bowling and were all out for 71 runs in only 18 overs.

Amjad Minhas was the main wicket-taker, getting three wickets. Tariq and Javed Hayat took two wickets each, while Anwar Khan and Raza Bashir got one each.

Lillee confirms English offers

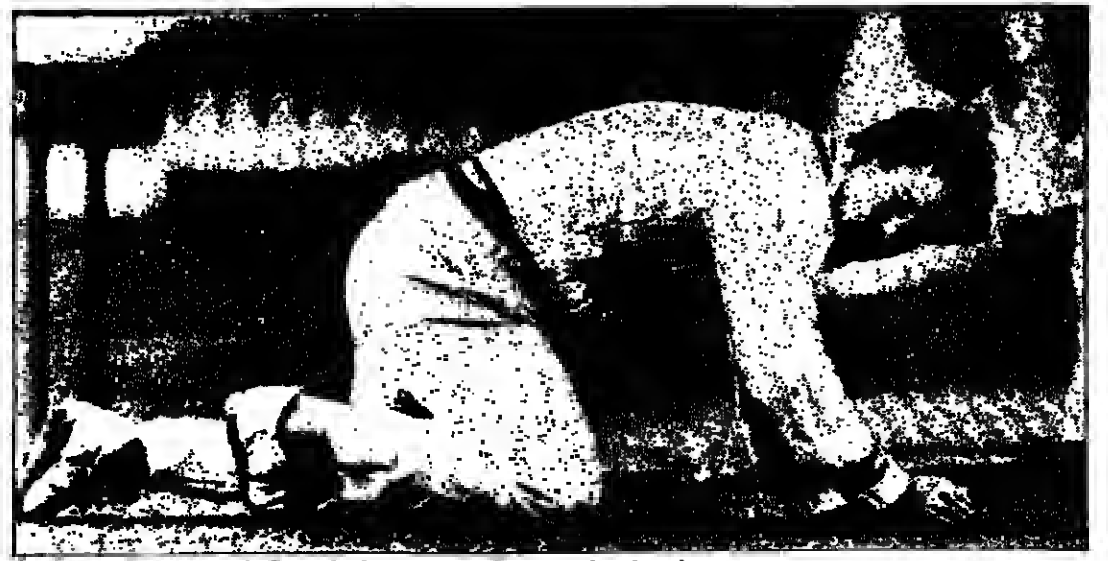
PERTH, Australia, Jan 18, (Reuters): Dennis Lillee, the former Australian Test fast bowler, confirmed today he had received offers from English county cricket clubs for the 1988 season.

But Lillee, 38, who took 355 wickets in 70 Tests before retiring from international cricket four years ago, said at the moment he was "not even considering" them.

"All I'm interested in is helping Tasmania get back on its feet in the Sheffield Shield."

Lillee said he had also received offers from Lancashire League clubs but did not name any of the teams who had approached him.

Two English counties, Northamptonshire and Lancashire, have said they might be interested in signing Lillee, who will be 39 in July.



Gatting looks annoyed after missing a catch. (Reuters wirephoto)

Burnett slams England bowlers

WELLINGTON, Jan 18, (Reuters): England failed to press home a tea-time advantage, allowing Wellington to reach 188 for six at the close of the first day of the tourists' opening cricket match in New Zealand.

Wellington had been 104 for five at tea.

The main stumbling block was 22-year-old Graham Burnett, playing in only his second first class match and standing in as a makeshift opener for injured Wellington captain Robert Vance.

Burnett survived a torrid opening from the England fast attack to play a dogged innings, ending 87 not out.

His main assistance came from Ian Ormiston who made 47 before falling to England captain

Mike Gatting. Gatting took in a spilled catch by wicketkeeper Bruce French off the bowling of David Capel.

England lost the toss and Wellington captain Ervin McSweeney chose to bat. The start of play was delayed for 30 minutes by bad light.

The England bowlers bowled a steady line without achieving spectacular penetration on a placid pitch. Best of them were Neil Foster, two for 23, and Neil Radford, one for 44.

But a worry for Gatting and the England team was that front-line bowlers Graham Dilley, who claimed the first wicket of the tour, and Foster both appeared to suffer minor injuries and failed to bowl in the final session.

Scoreboard

WELLINGTON first innings

B. Edgar c Embury b Dilley	10
G. Burnett not out	87
G. Larsen c French b Foster	11
T. Ritchie c Radford b Foster	0
T. Roberts b Radford	4
E. McSweeney c Foster b Embury	10
I. Ormiston c Gatting b Capel	47
G. Cedervall not out	8
Extras (b-3, lb-2, nb-6)	11
Total (for six wickets)	188

Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-56, 3-66, 4-66, 5-101, 6-172.

Bowling: Dilley 11-2-25-1, Foster 16-7-23-2, Capel 19-2-55-1 (nb-2), Radford 22-6-44-1 (nb-4), Embury 16-5-35-1, Moxon 1-0-1-0.

Wellington won the toss.

To bat: Steve Magnusson, Brett Williams, Jonathan Millar, England: Mike Gatting (captain), Chris Broad, Martyr Moxon, Bill Athey, Neil Fairbrother, David Capel, John Embury, Bruce French, Neil Foster, Neil Radford, Graham Dilley.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Own enemy

WICHITA FALLS, Texas, Jan 18. (AP): Former world welterweight and middleweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard said Larry Holmes' toughest opponent Friday night against heavyweight champion Mike Tyson will be Holmes himself. "Larry Holmes has to constantly reassure himself that he can do it," Leonard said Saturday. "He has the physical attributes — the height, the reach advantage — but I think it's just a matter of him saying, 'damn it, I can do it.'"

Speed skating

SAAS FEE, Switzerland, Jan 18. (AP): Jens-Uwe Mey of East Germany dominated a World Cup speed skating competition yesterday, taking two of three events despite a strong US performance. Mey won the 500-metre race in 36.86 seconds, ahead of three Americans. Nick Thomeiz was second in 36.97, followed by Dan Jansen in 37.01 and Marty Pierce in 37.19.

World Cup

GALLIO, Italy, Jan 18. (AP): Ernst Vettori of Austria yesterday won the 11th World Cup ski jumping event of the season. Vettori, 23, compiled 218.2 points to move from eighth to fourth place in the overall Cup standings.

Japanese boxer

TOKYO, Jan 18. (Reuters): Japanese bantamweight boxer Takuya Murguruma underwent two brain scans after losing a come-back bid yesterday but there was no sign of brain damage. Japanese doctors said today.

Houston race

HOUSTON, Jan 18. (Reuters): Norway's Geir Kvernmo pulled away from the pack after 21 kilometres and held off a strong challenge from Salvador Garcia of Mexico to win the 16th annual Houston marathon yesterday.

King's Cup

BANGKOK, Jan 18. (Reuters): Results in the King's Cup soccer tournament today:

Austrian 3 China 2 (half time 3-1)
Indonesia 3 Oman 0 (0-0)

E. Germans top

KINGSBERG, Norway, Jan 18. (AP): East Germany, headed by Andrea Ehrig, who won all four scheduled races and clinched her fourth straight overall title, dominated the women's 1988 European Championships in a speed skating. Ehrig collected 180.163 time points. She won the 500- and 3,000-metre races in 43.01 seconds and 4 minutes 28.89 seconds Saturday and the 1,500- and 5,000-metre events in 2:12.46 and 8:01-85 yesterday.

Door open

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Jan 18. (UPI): The door is still open for North Korea and Cuba at the Seoul 1988 Summer Games despite their refusals to attend. International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch said today.

Steroids sales

OSLO, Jan 18. (Reuters): Soviet Olympic medal hope Nikolai Gulyayev was alleged today to have sold anabolic steroids for Western currency to fellow speed skater Stein Krosby of Norway.

Bridge

RESULTS OF THE SAS Bridge Club game played on Sunday:
N/S
1st Sandra Turvey & Gill Wilde
2nd Lollo Murtwhait & Juliette
3rd Rima Ayyad & Ghofron Mikail
E/W
1st Daphne El — Saad & Margaret Maynard
2nd Johette Chiles & Nida Khalaf
and Lili Akel & Nadia McKenzie

DENVER THWART CLEVELAND COMEBACK

Broncos and Redskins win

DENVER, Colorado, Jan 18. (Reuters): The Denver Broncos thwarted an impressive Cleveland comeback yesterday as John Elway won a quarter-back duel and led his team to a 38-33 win over the Browns and a second straight trip to the Super Bowl.

The Broncos, who lost the Super Bowl to the New York Giants last year, will meet the National Football Conference champion Washington Redskins in San Diego on January 31.

Crossing

Washington quarterback Doug Williams threw two touchdown passes and the defence kept Minnesota from crossing the goal line in the second half as the Redskins defeated the Vikings 17-10 earlier yesterday.

It was the second consecutive heartbreaking loss for the Browns in an American Football Conference championship.

Last year Elway engineered a closing minutes 98-yard touchdown drive that sent the game into overtime and robbed Cleveland of what would have been their first Super Bowl.

Yesterday, with four minutes left in the game, Elway tossed a screen pass to Sammy Winder who broke tackles, turned the corner and galloped 20 yards to give Denver a 38-31 lead.

Cleveland quarterback Bernie Kosar, who guided the Browns' second half comeback with three touchdowns in the third quarter,



A Redskins fan (right) bites the horn of Vikings fan while watching the game. (Reuters wirephoto)

got to work and moved his team down the field.

Earnest Byner, who had already scored twice for the Browns, carried the ball toward the goal-line and looked certain to level the game and send it into overtime. But the Denver defence forced Byner to fumble on the two yard line and the Broncos recovered the ball, once again ending Cleveland's dream

of a Super Bowl berth.

"After the first half the Browns just kept coming and coming," said Elway. "But the defence hung in there and got the big turnover at the end."

In the first half it was all Denver as the Broncos capitalised on a pair of Cleveland turnovers and scored on their first three possessions to take a 21-3 half-time lead.

Kosar rose to the challenge, however, making this AFC championship as memorable as last year's dramatic affair.

"I was really impressed," said Denver coach Dan Reeves. "Kosar had us holding our breath."

The Redskins defence put tremendous pressure on Minnesota quarterback Wade Wilson, dropping him for eight sacks and stopped the Vikings on three attempts from inside the three-yard line in the fourth quarter. Minnesota were forced to settle for a field goal that levelled the score 10-10.

Washington opened the scoring in the first quarter when Williams capped an eight-play, 98-yard drive with a 42-yard touchdown pass to Kelvin Bryant.

With two minutes left in the first half, Wilson dropped a 23-yard pass into arms to Leo Lewis in the end zone and Chuck Nelson's extra point levelled the score 7-7.

Late in the third quarter, Ali Haji Sheikh kicked a 28-yard field goal to put the Redskins back in front 10-7.

With the score 10-10 and just over five minutes left in the game, Williams moved his team 70 yards up the field and hit Clark in the end zone to give his team the lead for the final time.

"I reacted to a bump and turned inside instead of outside. I thought Doug would pick it up," Clark said.

Armstrong to coach Kuwait team

BRITON George Armstrong has been asked to prepare the Kuwait national soccer team for the Gulf Cooperation Council's football tournament scheduled to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in March.

The secretary of the Kuwait Football Association (KFA), Mohammed Othman, announced that the decision was taken yesterday following a meeting of the KFA which was presided by the chairman of the association, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad.

Othman said that Armstrong, currently coaching the Al-Salmiyah Football Club, would replace Brazilian coach Ferrara. Armstrong will be assisted in his assignment by Saleh Al Asfour and Abdullatif Al Rasdan.

The Kuwaiti goalkeepers will be coached by Yugoslav trainer Ivan, Othman added.

The association also decided to prepare the under 16 and 19 teams for participation in the Asian prequalifying matches for the World Youth Cup. The World Youth Cup is scheduled to be held in the Maldives in June.



Saby flies over a hill during the sixth special stage. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lancias fight it out as Salonen starts fightback

MONTE CARLO, Jan 18. (Reuters): Lancia battled for the lead in the Monte Carlo rally today in a race stripped of much of its glory by the absence of the world's top drivers.

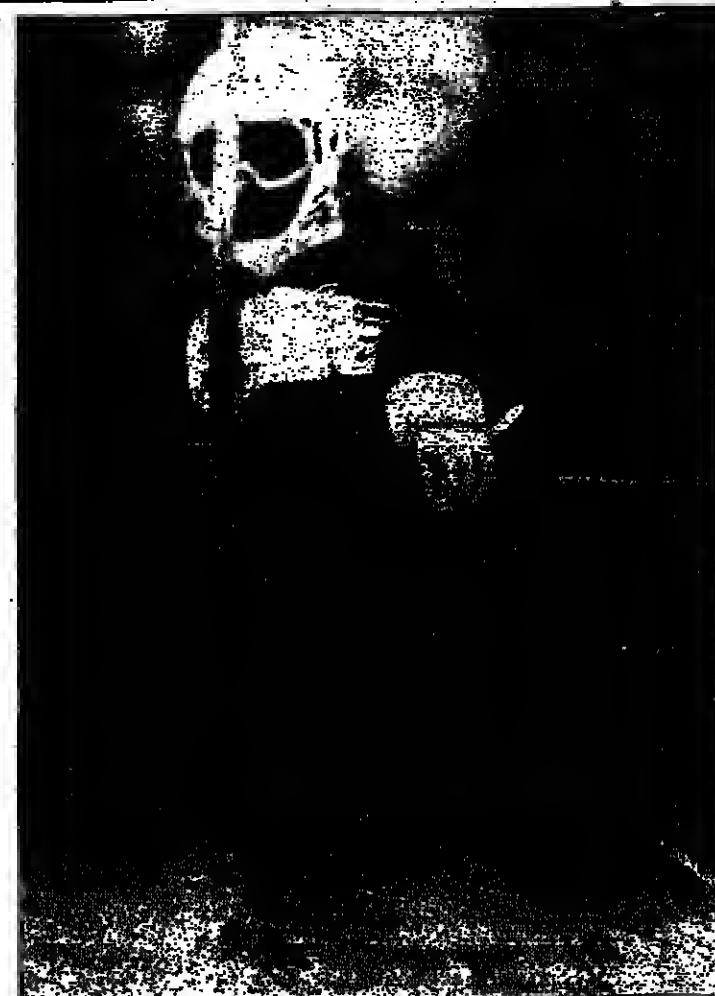
Finnish Ari Vatanen and Juha Kankkunen, the world champion, are both taking part in the Paris-Dakar rally.

Then on the first day of timed stages, yesterday, the 56th Monte was further devalued by the abandonment of 1987 winner Massimo Biasion of Italy, Finn Hannu Mikkola and Swede Ingvar Carlsson.

Trailing

That left the Lancias of French drivers Bruno Saby and Yves Loubet in command today.

Loubet, trailing by almost one minute overnight, clawed back to within seven seconds of Saby by the end of the second of six timed stages.



Oertli takes Cup race

SAAS FEE, Switzerland, Jan 18. (AP): Brigitte Oertli won her first World Cup race in a special slalom today, also leading the first Swiss triumph in the discipline this season ahead of teammate Vreni Schneider.

Oertli, third after the first heat, mounted a superbly controlled attack in the second run for a winning total of 1 minute, 26.57 seconds in the winter's fifth slalom.

Interim

Schneider, the giant slalom world champion, skied ferociously in the wrap-up to shoot from an interim eighth place to second, 0.23 seconds behind Oertli.

French talent Patricia Chauvet, who led after the first heat ahead of Spain's Blanca Fernandez-Ochoa, finished third in 1:26.81. Corinne Schmidhauser of Switzerland came in fourth, Dorota Mogore-Talka

of France was fifth.

Fernandez-Ochoa lost time in the second heat with a slip in a tight turn on the finish slope, but still finished sixth.

Oertli's win increased Swiss domination in the overall World Cup, moving her into third place with 124 points, behind leader Michela Figini with 166 and Maria Walliser, 127.

Downhill specialists Walliser and Figini did not compete at Saas Fee, a Valais Alps resort that took over a women's slalom originally scheduled yesterday for Lenggries, West Germany, but was cancelled due to lack of snow.

In the slalom specialty ratings, Fernandez-Ochoa took the lead with 56 points. She pulled five points ahead of Austria's Ida Ladstätter, winner of a slalom at Leukerbad last month, who finished 12th. Chauvet moved into third place with 48 points.

Zola Budd

LONDON, Jan 18. (AP): South African-born track star Zola Budd, who took British citizenship to become eligible for international racing, today denied reports she had put her career on the line by competing in her homeland.

South Africa is barred from international sport because of its policy of racial separation, known as apartheid, and the 21-year-old runner has pledged not to compete in her native land, although she trains there for much of the British winter.

Nomads rout Abu Dhabi

THE Nomads kept alive their hopes of successfully defending their Gulf Merit Table title with a comprehensive victory over Abu Dhabi on Friday. The Nomads ran in six tries with no reply to reinforce their status as one of the Gulf's top clubs.

Kuwait's stalwart fly half, Grabam Adams, opened the scoring with one of his rare tries. Bob Hall broke blind from a scrum inside the Abu Dhabi 22, fed Adams who trundled over himself with everyone expecting a pass to Drew Wilkins on the wing.

Wilkins was next on the score-sheet, however, Abu Dhabi were caught in possession, the Nomads pack stole the ball. Hall fed the late arriving Con Barry who put Wilkins in at the corner.

The Nomads' final try of the ball was a reward for the efforts of the back row. Kuwait won a line out on the right and from the midfield breakdown got good second phase possession. A sweeping run from Steve Hill got him close to the line where he managed to get the ball back in the direction of Alan Gibb who picked up and went over for the try, and a 12-0 interval lead.

A loose heel by the Abu Dhabi pack gave Wilkins his second and the Nomads' fourth try of the afternoon. Hall pounced on the loose ball and set Wilkins free for the score.

Kuwait's pack were rampant

now, and they set up try for Dave Bullus with a frenetic movement down field. Hall then swung a long pass to Bullus who cantered round his opposite number for his try. He then rounded off the scoring with a second try after a sweet move during which the ball moved through the hands of every three-quarter.

The Nomads second string were severely under strength to play Al Ain and fielded only fourteen men.

The Nomads started well by putting a great deal of pressure on the Al Ain line and were rewarded with the opening score. Jones crossed kicked from a penalty and Tyrrell pounced on the awkwardly bouncing ball for a good opportunity try for a 4-0 lead.

Al Ain narrowed the deficit with a penalty, and then took a 9-4 lead with a converted try after the Nomads' depleted defence had been exposed.

Kuwait got back into the game with a Jones penalty, but Al Ain's margin was restored with a massive penalty after some over-robust play by the Nomads' pack resulting in a half time score of 12-7 in Al Ain's favour.

After the interval, the Kuwait forwards played magnificently and Al Ain found themselves under continuous pressure. Inevitably something had to give, and Al Ain were forced to

concede a penalty which Jones converted from long range to put the Nomads within sight of victory.

It was a tragedy then that one sloppy pass resulted in a second try for Al Ain and a 16-10 lead. The Nomads fought back gamely and secured a second try by debutant Jerry Young, following up another cross kick. A fierce battle ensued for the last quarter of the game with neither side giving an inch, but Al Ain held out for their win.

The Nomads will encounter stiff opposition this Friday in their first home matches for almost a year, when Dubai Exiles visit Fintas Park.

The two clubs have already met four times this year, with honours even so far. Dubai are the Gulf-Sevens Champions beating the Nomads 12-6 in the final, and secured a narrow 8-7 win in the Merit Table match in November. The Nomads, meanwhile, beat the Exiles in extra time of the final of the Middle East Fifteens, and won 4-0 in the 2nd XV Football Cup.

Dubai also had a good win last weekend, thrashing the once mighty Bahrain 30-3, but they have rarely beaten the Nomads outside the Emirates.

With both 1st and 2nd teams in action, a feast of rugby is in prospect. The 1st XV match will kick off at 1 pm followed by the 2nd XV game at 3 pm.

Pate declared tourney winner

CARLSBAD, California, Jan 18. (Reuters): Steve Pate, who held a one stroke lead over Larry Nelson after three rounds, was declared the winner of the \$500,000 Tournament of Champions yesterday when severe storms forced cancellation of the final round of play.

The final round started as scheduled yesterday morning, but four times strong winds blew heavy rain in from the Pacific Ocean and play had to be suspended.

Seoul appeals to N. Korea and Cuba to attend Games

SEOUL, Jan 18. (Reuters): The South Korean Olympic Committee today appealed to North Korea and its close ally Cuba to abandon their boycott of this Summer's Games.

The appeal came despite deteriorating relations between North and South with Seoul last week accusing Pyongyang of despoiling one of its airliners with 115 people on board.

It put an alleged North Korean spy on television to con-

cess to planting a bomb on the plane last November, and has launched a diplomatic offensive to punish Pyongyang.

But Olympic committee chief Kim Chong-Ha said in a statement:

"We particularly call on North Korea and Cuba to change their positions even now and participate in the Seoul Olympics to help realise the hopes and dreams of mankind to make the world one family."

Vatanen rejoins race after car found

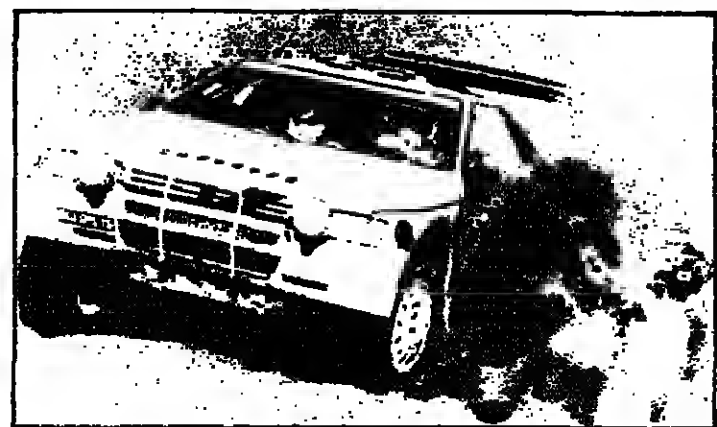
BAMAKO, Jan 18. (Reuters): Thieves today stole the Peugeot 405 of the leader of the Paris-Dakar motor rally and demanded a \$50,000 ransom, but the car was later found in a rubbish tip and driver Ari Vatanen was able to rejoin the race.

Peugeot team official Jacques Levacher said a boy spotted the car parked in an isolated tip a few hours after it was snatched at a stadium in the Malian capital Bamako.

Demanded

Organisers of the incident-plagued rally said the presumed thieves had phoned them earlier and demanded 500,000 French francs (\$90,000) for the vehicle. But the thieves failed to show up for the pay-off at an arranged meeting.

Levacher said no money changed hands and that Vatanen had rejoined the rally, starting two-and-a-half hours after the rest of the drivers who took off on the 18th stage from Bamako to



Vatanen's car which was stolen (Reuters wirephoto)

Kayes.

"We believe it was a European who stole the car," the Peugeot official said. "He was seen driving over the Niger River bridge this morning."

Rally organiser Gilbert Sabine said: "I do not understand how they managed to start up the car. It is a very sophisticated vehicle."

He said police had set roadblocks in and around the capital in efforts to trace the thieves, who were expected to have difficulty hiding the distinctive car.

Sabine said the start of the 18th stage of the rally was delayed pending efforts to recover the Peugeot.

But they had finally been for-

ced to begin the stage without Vatanen, who had held a one-hour lead over fellow-Finn Juha Kankkunen in the race which is scheduled to end on Friday.

The theft was the latest in a series of serious accidents and incidents which have brought sharp criticism of the gruelling 22-day rally.

Two people have been killed and several badly injured over the 1988 course, most of its previously untraced and described as the most difficult in the 10-year history of the event.

Called

In the latest accident, a member of French President Francois Mitterrand's motorcycle escort, racing as part of a police team, was in a deep coma after crashing his BMW bike in the desert.

Jean-Marie Balstre, President of the International Motor Sport Federation (Fisa), has called an emergency meeting with the organisers to discuss the future of the Paris-Dakar race.

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